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PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE
OF
AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

APRIL 8, 1837.

A COMMITTEE was held this day at one o'clock.

Present:—The Right Hon. C. W. Williams Wynn, M. P.; Sir Charles Forbes, Bart.; Sir George Thomas Staunton, Bart.; Colonel Briggs; John Fraser, Esq.; Dr. Horsfield; Louis H. Petit, Esq.; Colonel Sykes; Captain Harkness.

On the proposition that the Right Hon. Mr. Wynn, the President of the Society, do take the Chair, Mr. Wynn suggested that Sir Charles Forbes, who had taken so lively an interest in the success of the Committee of Agriculture and Commerce, should be elected as Chairman; but that till that gentleman arrived, he would be happy to supply his place. This suggestion was unanimously agreed to, and

It was Resolved,—That Sir Charles Forbes be requested to accede to the nomination.

On the arrival of Sir Charles Forbes, the resolution of the Committee was communicated to him; to which having kindly acceded, he was duly elected Chairman of the Committee of Agriculture and Commerce, and he took the Chair accordingly.

The Secretary read the following Minutes of the Council of the Society :

“ JULY 16, 1836.

“ Resolved,—That the Committee of Agriculture and Commerce do consist of the President, Vice-Presidents, and Members of the Council, and of the following gentlemen:—the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone; Major-Gen. Sir Henry Worsley, K. C. B.; Sir Whitelaw Ainslie, M. D.; Colonel John Briggs; John Crawford, Esq.; James Cropper, Esq.; John Fraser, Esq.; Dr. Horsfield; M. Scott Moore, Esq., M. D.; John Forbes Royle, Esq.”

" FEBRUARY 22, 1837.

" RULES FOR THE COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

" 1st. That all Members of the Council be, *ex-officio*, Members of the Committee.

" 2nd. That Members of the Committee not Members of the Council, shall go out at the Anniversary, and that others from the general body of the Members of the Society shall be elected in their room; or the same Members may be re-elected. The election to be by ballot.

" 3rd. That the Committee do from time to time report their proceedings to the Council.

" 4th. That any person not a Member of the Society, desirous of furthering the objects of the Committee, may be at liberty to subscribe for the same.

" 5th. That all subscriptions for such objects be kept separate from the general fund of the Society, and applied to the objects of the Committee only.

" 6th. That all subscribers of one pound and upwards be entitled to copies of all printed proceedings of the Committee."

Resolved,—That the Committee are anxious to relieve the Secretary of the Society at the earliest practicable period at which their funds will permit, from this additional call on his time and exertions; but in the mean while, they hope that Captain Harkness will have the goodness to conduct the business of the Committee.

Resolved,—That the Secretary be authorized to obtain occasional assistance, at an amount of expense not exceeding sixty pounds per annum.

A mass of Papers were submitted to the Committee, containing the Replies of the several Collectors under the Presidency of Madras, to Queries suggested by Mr. McCulloch, on statistics, manufactures, commerce, &c., and transmitted to India by the Committee of Correspondence of the Society.

Resolved,—That these papers be conveniently arranged for reference; and that a list of the Queries, with marginal notes indicating the corresponding number of the Reply, the places from which, and the persons by whom answers have been returned, be prepared.

Resolved,—That Mr. McCulloch be informed of the receipt of the replies to his queries from Madras; and that he have access to the same.

Read the following communications:—

1st. From Mr. Harman Visger, of Bristol, on Lichens, with specimens, &c., &c.; and expressing his conviction that the extensive regions of the East must produce, in abundance, some of the known, and many of the unknown, though probably not less valuable, Lichens available for dyeing; that a large and certain supply of good sorts would greatly stimulate the consumption, which has been much checked by the short supply and high price of the best-known Lichens used for dyeing; that, at present, he esti-

mates the annual import at from 60,000*l.* to 80,000*l.*; that he would be happy carefully to test any specimens that may be sent to him, and to report on them; and that he had sent to the Committee such specimens of Lichens as he had then been able to procure, with a list and paper of instructions, not confined merely to them, but comprising others which he would send so soon as he could procure them. (See page 4).

2nd. From Mr. Southey, of Coleman Street, on East Indian Wool, with specimens, &c., &c. (See page 5).

3rd. Extract of a Letter from Messrs. Forbes and Co., of Bombay; on Indian Iron.

Resolved,—That the thanks of the Committee be returned to these gentlemen for their kind attention; and that the list of Lichens and paper of instructions drawn up by Mr. Visger, and the letter from Mr. Southey, be printed in this day's proceedings. (See page 4).

Resolved,—That the specimens of Lichens furnished by Mr. Visger, of the ammoniacal liquor for extracting the colour, and of the colour required, be sent to the different Presidencies of India, and to Ceylon and China, through the medium of the home and local Governments, and to the several Horticultural and Agricultural Societies already established in India; and that fifty copies of the Committee's Proceedings of this day accompany each assortment of the specimens.

Resolved,—That the subject of Mr. Southey's communication on East Indian Wool, and of the extract of a letter from Messrs. Forbes and Co., of Bombay, on East Indian Iron, be allowed to lie over until the result of the examination of the expected investments of those articles be known.

Read a letter from the Horticultural Society of London, dated the 31st ultimo, enclosing a paper of proceedings of the Meerut Horticultural Society, and the report of the Members of the Committee to whom these communications had been referred.

Resolved,—That extracts from the paper of proceedings of the Meerut Horticultural Society be published in the Committee's proceedings of this day (see page 7); and that in all similar cases, papers be referred to particular Members for their report thereon.

Professor Royle suggested that specimen of the species of Lichen used in India for the purpose of dyeing (one of which is extensively employed in the Northern provinces, and is there called *Churhalceera*.) be obtained, and sent to Mr. Visger for the purpose of being submitted to experiment.

Resolved,—That the Committee take measures to obtain specimens of those Lichens; and that they be sent to Mr. Visger for experiment.

An offer was made by Professor Royle, to furnish a list of all the plants of India which yield oil.

An similar offer was made by Colonel Sykes, with reference to the plants of the Dekkan which are suitable to the purposes of domestic economy.

Professor Royle also promised to prepare a paper on the subject of Caoutchouc, and to submit it to the Committee, at as early a period as his present numerous avocations would permit.

Resolved,—That the Committee will be happy to avail themselves of the kind offers of Professor Royle and Colonel Sykes.

Resolved,—That J. G. Malcolmson, Esq., be nominated a Member of the Committee.

Resolved,—That letters be addressed to the Horticultural and Agricultural Societies of India and of England, expressive of the wish of this Committee, to enter into communications with them on all subjects of mutual interest to the respective institutions.

LIST WHICH ACCOMPANIED MR. VISGER'S SPECIMENS OF
LICHENS, &c.

"Lichens of Commerce."

No. of Specimen.	Commercial Name.	Botanical Name.	Value per Ton.
1.	Canary Orchilla Weed	Lichen Rocella	250 <i>l.</i> to 350 <i>l.</i>
2.	Cape de Verde ditto	—	200 to 300
3.	Western Island ditto ...	—	150 to 230
4.	Madeira ditto	—	100 to 150
5.	African ditto	—	80 to 120
6.	South American ditto ...	—	80 to 120
7.	Sardinian ditto	—	30 to 45
8.	Cape of Good Hope ditto	—	20
9.	English ditto	—	No commercial value
10.	Canary Rock Moss	Unknown	80 to 90
11.	Sardinian ditto	(supposed) Pustulatus	70 to 90
12.	{ Pustulatus ditto, of } { Sweden, Norway, } { and England	{ Lichen Pustulatus, or } { Gyrophera	20 to 40
13.	Tartarous Moss	Lichen Tartarus	20 to 40

"Lichens liable to be mistaken for those of Commerce, but possessing no value."

No. of Specimen.	May be mistaken for	Points of Difference.
21.	Nos. 1 to 9.	The bad is flat, and has a bitterish taste; the good is cylindrical, and not bitter.
22.	No. 12.	The difference is apparent, but the Villous is generally more or less mixed with the Pustulatus whenever collected.
23.	No. 10.	The great similarity between the good and bad Canary Mosses, renders the collection of the good a matter of some difficulty.

"The Good has a nearly white powder on its surface, towards the centre; the under surface is of a gray colour, and is not hairy; if wetted it does not turn of an orange colour; its edges are flat and thin.

"*The Bad* has no mealy white powder on its surface; its under side is hairy, and blacker than the good; its edges are usually more or less knobbed, and on being wetted it generally becomes of an orange colour.

"No. 24, contains a mixed sample of good and bad, which has been wetted with water.

"The useless Mosses greatly outnumber the useful, and vary from each other, in some instances, by such slight shades of difference, that the above specimens of them can serve little more than to call minute attention to the subject. A test for the discovery of colour is therefore necessary.

"*Test*.—Take liquor ammoniac, very much diluted with water, but strong enough to retain a powerfully-pungent smell—half-fill a phial bottle with the same, then add of the Lichen (being broken up to a convenient size), so much as will lightly fill up the liquor, so that the whole may be readily stirred about. Care must be taken to leave at least one-third of the bottle for air. The bottle must be kept corked, but be frequently opened, and the contents stirred with a small stick. The colour will begin to exhibit itself in a few hours, and the more rapidly in proportion to the warmth of the place in which it is kept; but the heat should not exceed 130° Farenh. A piece of white silk placed near the surface of the fluid will show the colour before it would otherwise be perceptible. This test will only serve to show where colour exists, but will not develop it to its fullest extent.

"*Localities*.—The good sorts are generally found in rocky or stony districts, or where dry stone walls abound; in the neighbourhood of the sea,—or if distant from the sea, in places exposed to sea breezes. The more valuable are met with in volcanic islands. My own experience has been principally in the Canaries, where I find the more arid the situation, the better the quality of the Lichens. When the land is high and humid, the useless sorts alone are met with. In dry places near the sea, there are only the good sorts; and there is generally a belt between the two, in which both good and bad are found on the same stones, and not unfrequently overrunning each other.

"There is with the samples a small bottle of ammoniacal liquor, of the strength suited for test; and also a small bottle of the colour to be produced."

MR. SOUTHEY'S COMMUNICATION.

"London, 24th Nov. 1838.

"We have much pleasure in offering you the following observations on the Wool imported into this country from Bombay, by which you will perceive there is in India a race of sheep which produces Wool that can be applied to useful purposes in some of our manufacturing districts; at the same time it will be seen that, with due attention to the assortment of the Wool, and to the improvement of the breed of sheep, a more valuable description of Wool may be produced.

"Most of the Wool which has hitherto been imported into this country

from India, has been found of a short staple, with a vast quantity of hairs interspersed through the Wool (what is technically called kemp hairs): they will not receive dye, which renders such Wool unfit for general use, and consequently confines its application to the more ordinary branches of manufacture, such as blankets, and other low quality of goods.

"It evidently appears there are various descriptions of Wool produced in India, as we have seen some of a superior quality, which we are given to understand was produced in the province of Guzerat, some of which we estimate to be worth 15*d.* to 18*d.* per lb.

"The whole of the Wool hitherto imported from thence, came from the island of Bombay, we are therefore unable to form an opinion where the Wool is grown; but should the information we have obtained prove correct (that it is produced in Guzerat, and that that portion of the province is under British sway), it may be deserving consideration, whether an improvement in the quality of the Wool would not prove an advantage to this country.

"Under this assumption, we shall proceed to make the following observations:—

"During last year, there was imported into London 773 bags of Indian Wool, and into Liverpool 624.

"1397 bags—these were sold at public auction, at 4½*d.* to 14½*d.* per lb. They were chiefly white, and well washed: there is occasionally found a few black locks interspersed through the bags, which ought to be carefully excluded, as the Indian sheep's Wool is generally applied to the manufacture of white goods, consequently any admixture of coloured Wool tends to deteriorate its value.

"We have discovered amongst the finer qualities of Indian Wool, a considerable portion of yellow and discoloured locks, which operates very materially against its sale. In order to remove such an objection, it is requisite the discoloured wool should be selected from the white, and each kind packed in separate bags, by which means an increased competition for the article would be produced; at the same time its value would be thereby enhanced. To which we may further add, the Wool would be bought with greater avidity, as it could then be immediately applied to the various purposes of manufacture without further trouble or expense.

"To those who may feel the laudable desire of producing an improvement in the breed of sheep, and quality of their Wool, we would recommend the introduction of some of our best-woolled English rams amongst the Indian ewe flocks, as by so doing, the quality of the Wool would be materially improved, inasmuch as it would thereby become both a better and more useful class of Wool; at the same time the quantity would also be considerably augmented.

"We remain, Gentlemen, &c."

EXTRACT FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
AT MEERUT.

"THE Secretary reported that considerable progress had been made in the garden since the last Meeting, that many of the seeds sown had vegetated, the stock of nursery trees and plants been considerably increased, and a large portion of ground appropriated to the cultivation of strawberries, of which a great quantity of a very good description had been presented by Mr. Hamilton. Also, that at the conclusion of the rains he had purchased, at very moderate rates, from a native nurseryman travelling up the country with a large stock for sale, about 300 plants, of twenty-seven kinds, mostly of well-grafted fruit-trees; amongst which were four kinds of oranges, two of pomegranates, chukotras, two of peaches, jakas &c., and that, with two or three exceptions, the whole continued to the present moment in excellent order. The singularity of the fact of an individual earning a livelihood by means much at variance with the usual habits of the cultivators of the land, induced the Secretary to make several enquiries of this man, which led him to state that he had an extensive nursery at Cawnpoor, devoted almost exclusively to the raising of fruit and ornamental trees and shrubs, which annually, at the conclusion of the rains, were taken by himself and his connexions in small parties of two and three to various parts of the country; that they found a ready sale for them amongst the richer natives who had extensive gardens, and sometimes amongst European gentlemen. That he had in former trips been as far as Nagpoor southward, and Nee-much westward, and would now, unless he sooner disposed of his stock, go as far as Loodhicanah. The plants were very neatly and compactly arranged, with just sufficient earth tied on the roots to prevent them from drying, and appeared, although upwards of three weeks out of the ground, in perfect condition.

"Resolved,—That, with reference to the increase of labour in the garden, and the necessity of a proper distribution of the several duties of the gardeners, such as grafting, collecting of seeds, &c., three additional mallies be entertained, on the *usual wages* of 4 Rs. per mensem.

"The Secretary reported that the plants despatched by Dr. N. Wallich, of the Company's Botanical Garden at Calcutta, had arrived. Amongst them are five kinds of Mangoe, the Mangosteen, Chocolate, Alligator Pear, the Sapota, the Jamrool, Japan Sweet Olive, also the *Logwood* and *Cajuputi* Oil Tree.

"The Secretary reported that he had received the following communications since the last Meeting of the Society.

"From Captain C. M. Wade, Political Agent at Loodianah, to Captain Anderson, H. A., consigning a small parcel of Prangoss seed to his care. The seed is described, and the extreme importance attached to its introduction into England as a cure for the rot in sheep, by previous acclimation in India, dwelt on by Mr. Moorcroft, in the first Vol. Trans. of the Horticultural Society of India. Captain Wade says the seed now sent were very recently

obtained from Little Thibet, where they were first discovered by Mr. Moorcroft, and that he is anxious it should have a trial in the Society's garden. Several parcels have been sent to Calcutta, but do not appear to have vegetated. Should the present sample share the same fate, Captain Wade will endeavour to have some of the plants brought to him in their native earth. (The Secretary stated that the seed had been sown, but had not as yet shown itself above ground.)

"From J. Bell, Esq., announcing the dispatch from Calcutta per steamer of a large quantity of three kinds of fresh American Cotton-seeds, (Upland Georgia, New Orleans, Sea Island,) and also Egyptian, had been dispatched to Captain Watt, at Allahabad, to be at the disposal of any Society in the Upper Provinces of India.

"From Captain W. H. Sleeman, to R. M. C. Hamilton, Esq., informing him that he had requested his friends at Jubbulpoor to send up a boat-load of the Otaheite sugar-cane, which would come free of expense to the Society as far as Ghurmuckteser. Also, that if the Society would send down camels, the expense should be paid at Jubbulpoor, and the Society be thus enabled to get some whole canes, to compare with those that might be got from Moradabad.

"From Lieut. H. Kirke, Sirmoor Battalion, to the Rev. J. C. Proby, mentioning that he had been since last August instructing a gardener in the art of grafting, laying out grounds, and collecting seeds; that the man had made a great number of grafts of all the best trees in Lieut. Kirke's garden, and when completely ready, should be sent down to Meerut; which would be about the 1st December next. The grafts are of three sorts of plum, two of peach, and one of the English green-gage.

"The Secretary exhibited to the Meeting two plants of the Egyptian cotton, reared from the seed forwarded from Calcutta about five months since. The plants were in full flower, about two and two and a half feet high, in apparent good condition, and stated to have been cultivated in a dry sandy soil in the Secretary's own garden, which, more from necessity than otherwise, had not been watered since the rains, and but slightly manured with the ashes of some rubbish burnt on the spot. The plants, both of Peruvian and Egyptian cotton, which had been cultivated in the Society's garden in a strong clayey soil, and abundantly watered, appeared on the contrary to be quite stunted, and little likely to yield any produce.

"The Secretary also mentioned, that the attendant circumstances in the cultivation of a small quantity of Nankeen cotton had been reversed, as the dry soil and much water were found to promote its growth, whereas that in the sandy soil without water, was in a very lingering condition.

"Considerable attention has lately been paid towards the improvement of certain products adapted for exportation. It may be thought worthy of consideration to ascertain whether produce for home consumption, particularly the more valuable sorts, may not be equally capable of improvement, with great benefit.

"The mass of the population of India being almost wholly employed in agricultural pursuits, has long been considered prejudicial to the improve-

ments of the country, the first step to which must naturally be looked for to a new system, and cannot be better commenced, than by acquiring superior products as the first stimulant to further industry.

"The agricultural products of India, as far as regards corn, have probably never undergone any changes. Although in Europe great advantages from time to time have been derived by the introduction of superior foreign grain, the attention of agriculturists seems still to be drawn to the subject, and new and important acquisitions to the English farmer have lately been made in the Victoria wheat.

"The light corn of India, as at present grown, may be best suited for dry light upland soils without irrigation, but the rich and irrigated soils certainly deserve a better and heavier description of grain than that now used.

"In order to show the necessity of improvement, the following is a short description, with sketches, of barley and wheat grown in India, compared with common wheat grown in England, and wheat in Syria, the latter in a climate somewhat similar to this, premising that the crop selected of India produce, was of the best description procurable in the district of Saharunpoor.

"No. 1. Barley, length of straw three feet two inches; fifty-four grains in the ear, weighing thirty grains.

"No. 2. Common red wheat, length of straw three feet nine inches, thirty-eight grains in the ear, weighing twenty-one grains. This is the wheat sown generally in the Doob, in all soils.

"No. 3. The Daoode, or beardless wheat, length of straw three feet eight inches, twenty-eight grains in the ear, weighing twenty-two grains. The district of Rewarree, in Dilhee, is famous for this wheat; the flour from it is used for the finest sort of bread and sweetmeats.

"No. 4. Bearded large white wheat, forty-three grains in each ear, weighing thirty-one grains. This wheat is very uncommon: it is sometimes grown in the Futtighur district; a few heads of it were found at Saharunpoor.

"No. 5. Heshbon wheat, as sketched and described by Messrs. Irby and Mangles, in their travels in Nubia and Syria, &c. Length of straw five feet one inch, eighty-four grains in the ear, weighing 103 grains.

"Common English wheat, length of straw four feet two inches, forty-one grains in the ear, weighing forty-two grains.

*"Instructions respecting the planting of the Otaheite Sugar-cane,
by Captain W. H. Sleeman.*

"Four cuttings of three or four joints each must be planted in each hole; the holes are two feet asunder at the ends, and in rows which are four feet asunder. The cuttings are put in diagonally, so that one end may be at the surface, while the other is six or eight inches under the earth in the centre of the holes. The cuttings must lie so that the shoots may be at the sides, and not above and below.

" After the planting the holes are filled in, and the ground levelled ; but when the watering commences, channels must be made for the water between the rows ; and in the course of weeding, the earth is thrown up from between the rows upon the canes, which prevents the water from lying over them in the rains.

" The best soil is what the natives call Doomateen ; the ground must not be at any time flooded, or under water in the rains ; the ground must be well manured, just as it is for potatoes. A second crop may be taken the second year. After the cutting, the stumps are burnt to the earth by setting fire to the dry leaves about them ; the ground must be loosened around them in February, fresh manure supplied, and the watering goes on as in the first year."

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

MAY 26, 1837.

A COMMITTEE was held this day at one o'clock.

Present:—Sir Charles Forbes, Bart.; the Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston; the Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie; the Honorable Mountstuart Elphinstone; Sir Henry Willeford; Colonel Briggs; Lieut. Colonel Sykes; W. Jerdan, Esq., Dr. Horsfield; J. G. Malcolmson, Esq.; W. Newnham, Esq.; W. Oliver, Esq.; Captain Harkness.

SIR CHARLES FORBES, Bart., in the Chair.

The minutes of the last Committee were read and confirmed.

Sir Alexander Johnston informed the Committee that since their last Meeting he had received a letter, over land, from his son in China, in which it was stated that Lichens had been found in the Peninsula of Macao, and about the mouth of the Canton river: these Lichens are said to be inferior to those generally used in Europe, for dyeing; but Mr. Johnston had understood from well-informed Mandarins that in the province of Fokien, and in the environs of the city of Nankin, some excellent species are procurable, which there would not be any objection to send to Europe; that they were in fact encouraging the growth of them.

Read a letter from J. A. Stewart Mackenzie, Esq., M. P., dated the 22nd instant, stating that he will be happy to promote the objects of the Committee, and to have his name added to the list of Members; Mr. Mackenzie further states, that he will take an opportunity before

his departure for Ceylon, of consulting the Members of the Committee on the best means of carrying their intentions into effect, as regards that country.

Resolved,—That an application be made to the Colonial Office, requesting that the Committee may be favoured with the loan of all the papers connected with the plan proposed by Sir Alexander Johnston, in 1810, for the cultivation of the waste lands of Ceylon, and which papers were deposited two or three years ago in the Library of the Colonial Office.

Read a letter from Professor Royle, stating that he had not been able to prepare the paper on Oil Seeds, which he had hoped to get ready for reading at this Meeting of the Committee; and that the paper on Caoutchouc alluded to in the Committee's proceedings of the 8th ultimo would shortly be published.

Resolved,—That reference be made to the Horticultural and Agricultural Society of Western India, Bombay, for information respecting a grey-coloured moss, named Shennah, which is collected by the Bedouins on the Granite Mountains of the island of Socotra: this moss is used by the women to dye their faces yellow; and is mentioned in a report of Lieut. Wellsted, in the journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, for the year 1835, page 144, where it is stated that the granite spires of the island are covered with it.

Resolved,—That copies of the Committee's Proceedings be sent to the editors of the chief provincial newspapers in the united kingdom.

Resolved,—That the Committee endeavour to procure specimens of the soils in which the various kinds of American cotton most approved in the English markets, are grown, with a view to the institution of a comparison of them with the soils of the cotton districts in India.

Resolved,—That a letter be written to his Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, forwarding the above Resolution, and requesting that he will have the goodness to obtain for the Committee from those parts of the United States where cotton is produced, the information and assistance required.

An extract from a pamphlet on the cultivation of cotton, by Dr. Lush, printed at Bombay in 1837, was read, relating to the difficulties experienced in the transport of goods from the want of roads.

Resolved,—That the above extract be published in this day's Proceedings. (*vide* p. 18)

Mr. Ashburner, who had kindly favoured the Committee with his attendance, read a paper drawn up by him, on the internal trade of Bombay in cotton, salt, &c., and on the state of the roads and modes of conveyance in general throughout that Presidency.

Resolved,—That this Paper be printed in the Proceedings of this day, (vide under) and that the thanks of the Committee to Mr. Ashburner for his communication, be recorded.

Resolved,—That a copy of Mr. Ashburner's Paper be sent to the Court of Directors, with a request that an abstract statement of the roads constructed at the several Presidencies of India within the last twenty years, be furnished to the Committee.

MEMORANDUM RESPECTING THE INTERNAL TRADE AND COMMUNICATION OF THE PRESIDENCY OF BOMBAY, BY GEO. ASHBURNER, ESQ.

Within the last few years the internal trade of western India has exhibited unusual signs of activity. An intercourse has long been established between the provinces on the Nerbudda and the Taptee, and the port of Bombay; but until 1830 it was confined almost entirely to the conveyance of salt for the consumption of central India.

This article was carried on bullocks from the sea-coast to the town of Oumrawutty in Berar, a distance of near six hundred miles.

As the bullocks were sent down from Oumrawutty unladen, it occurred to an enterprising native in the year above mentioned, to load some of them with the cotton of the country, which had been previously carried to Calcutta, *via* Mirzapore and the Gauges, and the experiment succeeded so well that no less than 10,000 loads of the article were brought to Bombay the following year.

The price it then sold for (64 rupees a candy) seemed sufficiently remunerating; for the quantity brought to market was steadily and rapidly increasing. The great rise, however, in the price of cotton all over the world, which took place in 1834, and 1835, and the high prices which continued last year, gave an additional stimulus to the cotton dealers and cultivators of Berar; and the result was, the importation into Bombay last year of no less than 90,000 bullock loads of 240lbs. each, of the article from the above district.

The great fall which has since taken place in the value of cotton will no doubt check this important branch of commerce. If properly

managed and encouraged, however, there is every reason to suppose that it will nevertheless go on increasing at a steady pace. The fact is, there is no portion of the world at present which seems capable of producing cotton at so cheap a rate as central India.

The soil throughout the greater portion of the country is uncommonly rich, and its value is but trifling.

The exact amount of the assessment I have not been able to ascertain, but from all that I could learn it was not more for cotton lands than 4 annas (about 6d.) per bigha. In the next place labour in central India is cheaper than in almost any other portion of the world; the wages of an able bodied man being only 3 rupees per mensem. It has been estimated therefore that Berar cotton may be cultivated profitably for 30 rupees per candy, or for rather less than a penny a pound! Hence the only obstacle which exists to its production to a much greater, I may indeed almost say to an unlimited extent, is the difficulty of transportation from the place of cultivation to a market.

To give an idea of the extent to which this operates, it is necessary in the first place to state, that the price of transportation at present amounts to from 7 to 9 rupees per bullock load between Oumrawutty and Bombay, or allowing 3 bullock loads to a candy, to an average of 24 rupees per candy, a sum equal to 80 per cent. upon the first cost of the article. But this is not all. The time occupied on the route between Berar and Bombay is very great. A laden bullock travels only at the rate of 9 miles a day, and often from lameness, fatigue, and other causes, is obliged to remain stationary for days together. About 70 days, therefore, are required to effect the transit between the place of cultivation and the coast, and as the cotton of Berar ripens in February and March, it requires the utmost exertion to bring any portion of it to market previous to the setting in of the south-west monsoon; while it almost invariably happens that large quantities are caught on the road by the rain, and if not destroyed, are greatly damaged, by becoming wet, mouldy and black. Besides, in such cases, numbers of the cattle used for transportation are killed from overwork; as in addition to the anxiety felt to push them on to the utmost to avoid the effects of rain, the cotton with which they are laden, from absorbing quantities of moisture, becomes double its original weight, and actually crushes the animals it is upon to the ground. It frequently happens therefore, owing to this and the other causes I have mentioned,

that hundreds of their carcasses are to be met with just previous to the monsoon strewn along the paths they have traversed.

All this however, may easily be improved. The natural and obvious remedy is a good road for wheel carriages; at present nothing of the kind exists over the greater portion of the route between the places above mentioned.

The effects which improving the means of communication in this way would have upon the trade of central India are almost incalculable. The rude carts of the country upon ordinary and very imperfect roads, lessen the cost of transportation as compared with bullocks in the proportion of two to seven,* and admit at the same time of double the speed attainable by the latter.

Were, therefore, the trade of Berar to remain stationary instead of improving, as it might very reasonably be expected to do, by the construction of a good road to the sea-coast, the first effect of such a measure would be to lessen the cost of transportation five-sevenths upon the amount of the produce sent to and from that and the neighbouring provinces, which was last season estimated in round numbers at

Bullock Loads.	
Cotton	90,000
Salt	200,000
Total	<u>290,000</u>

But, instead of estimating the probable saving upon this immense traffic at five-sevenths, suppose, to be within bounds, that it is taken at only one half. The result allowing 8 rupees as the average cost of transportation for a single bullock load would be a reduction of expense of sixteen lakhs of rupees per annum, or in round numbers of 160,000*l.*, and this, it is to be borne in mind, would be upon one route alone! At the same time such a saving would probably be the least of the advantages resulting from the work in question. By lessening

* Colonel Briggs, the late resident at Nagpore, who has resided for many years in the valley of Berar, estimates the difference between the 2 modes of conveyance as still more considerable. He found, by enquiries made on the spot, that a common cart with two bullocks conveys seven ordinary bullock loads; and that carts on a good road proceed at the rate of 18 miles a day. Whereas laden bullocks, as I have stated, accomplish only one half of that distance. The proportion between the two, therefore, in his opinion, is as 7 to 1, in favour of the former.

the expense at which the produce of central India, on the one hand, and of the coast on the other, could be carried to a market, it would increase the demand for it to a proportionate extent. This again would stimulate cultivation and production, and, as the population of the country in question is enormous, it is difficult to assign limits to the increase of trade that would arise from conferring upon it merely the ordinary means of intercourse in all civilized states, of which hitherto it has unfortunately been in a great measure deprived.

It may be as well, however, to shew the productive powers of the country more clearly, to instance the increase which has lately taken place in the amount of cotton exported from Bombay. From 1828 to 1835 the exports averaged 178,000 bales a year, and remained nearly stationary. But the high prices of the latter year led to more extensive cultivation, and, notwithstanding numerous obstacles to production, the Presidency of Bombay last year produced and exported no less than 290,000 bales of cotton, being an increase of 112,000 bales within the year. Some portion of this increase no doubt is attributable to an unusually good season, but by far the largest share arose, as the reports of the revenue collectors shew, from extension of cultivation alone. Here, then, is a specimen of what India is capable of doing under favourable circumstances, and there can be no question whatever that the production of cotton would, with good roads to the interior, go on increasing as rapidly as it increased during the last twelvemonth; for the stimulus to cultivation would be as great from decreased expenses as it has lately been from increased prices.

Thus with proper management we might reasonably expect to see the exports of the country in this staple alone, swelling at the rate of 100,000 bales per annum, and amounting probably at no distant period to a million of bales. And what would be the consequence in other respects? Besides benefitting the revenue, and improving the condition of the people of India, such a trade would give employment to a vast amount of British shipping, (400,000 tons,) at the same time that it created a greater demand for the manufactures of the mother country.

Upon the trade in salt, the effect of improved means of communication probably would be equally great. The first cost of this article is but trifling, amounting in general, to less than an eighth of the sum paid for its transportation to the market of Oumrawutty. Any thing, therefore, which reduced the latter, would, to almost an equal extent,

affect the price of this great necessary of life, to the consumer in central India, who at present, from being forced to supply himself with it, by means of a slow and laborious land carriage of 600 miles, finds it one of the most expensive articles of food. There can be little doubt therefore, that a reduction of fifty per cent. in its price, which, I am confident might be effected by good roads, would at least double the quantity consumed, and that instead of the trade in it being limited to 200,000 bullock loads, it would soon exceed twice that amount.

Nor is it in cotton and salt alone that an improvement of this kind would take place. Every description of raw and bulky produce, such as wool, hemp, linseed, and dye stuffs, suffers in an equal degree by the present state of things; the effect of which in many cases, may be estimated as doubling and trebling their price, between the place of cultivation and the sea coast, where a large market for them alone exists. Great, therefore, as the field unquestionably is for improvement in India in the mode of cultivating and preparing its products for market, and beneficial as the introduction of new articles of produce, suited to the wants of Europe, as well as to those of the native population, would be, I cannot but think that the simplest, surest, and most important step towards bettering the condition of the people, and increasing the resources of the country, will be facilitating the means of internal traffic.

G. A.

London, May 25th,
1837.

EXTRACT FROM PAMPHLET BY DR. LUSH, ON THE CULTIVATION
AND PREPARATION OF COTTON.

Packing and transport of cotton.—The Guzerat districts enjoy facilities of transport unknown to the southward, there being not only convenient water carriage, but as the country is flat, carts are the common transport of the country, notwithstanding the absence of made roads. This is accompanied by the repacking system, by which the cotton is screwed into a smaller compass and the cost of transport lessened. But in the Southern Maratha country, and in all those distant provinces, where, from the hilly nature of the surface, carts cannot travel many miles without made roads, the only carriage known

is the back of the bullock and buffalo; a mode slow, expensive, and injurious to the cotton. Considering the expense of the land carriage of loosely packed cotton, of which each bullock carries ten maunds only, the bullock-hire (though moderate at twelve rupees per candy for about 100 miles,) it is really wonderful how the cotton of some distant countries ever reaches the Bombay market at all.* It now comes under the temptation of very high prices. But should cotton fall to one hundred rupees the candy in Bombay, how many of these provinces would find their trade stopped and their cotton cultivation checked? It would be needless (for it has been tried without success) to establish repacking screws in parts of the country where carts are not the ordinary carriage of bulky merchandise. Your cotton would be screwed and carts might be hired, but they would be the carts ordinarily used for agricultural purposes, and the bullocks also taken from the plough, to the great hindrance of farming business, for which you must pay accordingly. Well-made roads through distant and difficult countries *must precede any other step* in the encouragement of the trade in cotton. Should a considerable fall, even though temporary, be experienced in the price of cotton, before these increased facilities can be afforded, we shall hear of cotton remaining on hand in all the distant districts, land thrown out of cultivation, and heavy remissions of revenue to the ryots.

It would be tedious to trace out all the inconveniences of the present mode of transport. Let any one picture to himself, droves of brinjaree bullocks, carrying each a few maunds of cotton, moving through the black plains in a year of famine, in the attempt to convey to the coast the abundant crop of cotton of the year preceding, obliged to carry their fodder as well as their cotton bags. Contrast this with a state of things which we all must wish to see, well constructed roads, fit for substantial carts, carrying from the coast or the more favored inland districts, grain to the famished; and returning at less than half the present cost, laden with "repacked" cotton in far better condition than any now received, unless from the more favored districts to the northward. At this moment there is not a road from any cotton mart under this presidency to any commercial port on the coast.

* In 1831, cotton was offered in the ceded districts beyond the Toombudra, at from 24 to 28 rupees per Surat candy, but in vain, how was it to reach Bombay? Could it have been screwed and carted, it would have been an excellent speculation.

Returns of Exports of Cotton, Opium, and Wool, and of the Tonnage inwards and outwards, with Imports and Exports of Treasure at Bombay, received from Bomanjee Hormarjee, Esq.

COTTON.

	To China.	To Great Britain.	Total
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
1828	103,533	91,001	183,137
1829	87,927	38,987	126,914
1830	117,269	37,295	154,563
1831	122,261	81,434	203,695
1832	115,091	13,631	213,725
1833	109,711	91,152	203,993
1834	120,623	82,082	202,705
1835	53,771	103,764	157,478
1836	121,121	108,901	290,092
1837. Estimated at	300,000 bales.		

OPIUM.

In 1829	3,420	Chests.
" 1830	3,506	do.
" 1831	4,172	do.
" 1832	10,105½	do.
" 1833	6,937	do.
" 1834	11,206	do.
" 1835	8,785	do.
" 1836	16,231½	do.
" 1837. Estimated at	18,000 Chests.	

WOOLS FOR GREAT BRITAIN.

	Bales.	Cwts.
1833	106	303
1831	439	1,719
1835	2,290	6,303
1836	5,125	14,645
Not Estimated.		

	1831.	1832.	1833.	1834.	1835.	1836.
Inwards .....Tonnage	60,379	56,051	71,029	69,803	73,175	102,571
Outwards	63,510	63,200	62,852	87,030	74,138	104,424

	1832.	1833.	1834.	1835.
Imports ....Treasure. Rs.	51,79,600	119,90,127	110,30,696	131,91,557
Exports	26,45,685	19,50,512	16,17,978	15,43,414

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

JUNE 16, 1837.

A COMMITTEE was held this day at one o'clock.

Present:—Sir Charles Forbes, Bart.; the Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston; the Right Hon. Sir Gore Ouseley, Bart.; the Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie; the Right Hon. Henry Ellis; Colonel Briggs; William Newnham, Esq.; Professor Royle; Colonel Sykes; John G. Malcolmson, Esq.; Captain Harkness.

Sir CHARLES FORBES, Bart., in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Committee were read and confirmed.

Read a letter from the Right Hon. Lord Glenelg, Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, complying with the wishes of the Committee as explained in their Minutes of the 26th of May last; and forwarding a volume of papers connected with the plan proposed by Sir Alexander Johnston, for the cultivation of the waste lands of Ceylon.

Resolved,—That the thanks of the Committee be returned to Lord Glenelg for his kind attention.

Resolved,—That the Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston be requested to conduct the communication with the Right Hon. Stewart Mackenzie, in the name of the Committee, respecting the present condition and improvement of the Agriculture of the island of Ceylon.

Read a letter from John Macvicar, Esq., acknowledging his election into the Committee.

Read a letter from William Jerdan, Esq., enclosing an Extract from the *Ceylon Gazette*.

Resolved,—That the thanks of the Committee be communicated to Mr. Jerdan.

Read a letter from Captain H. Drummond, of the Bengal Native Cavalry, stating that he is about to depart for India, to be employed in examining the mineral resources of the Himalaya Districts; and expressing his wish to be placed in communication with the Committee, with the object of promoting its views, as regards the part of India to which he is proceeding.

Resolved,—That Captain Drummond be informed the Committee will be happy to communicate with him on all subjects connected with the objects it has in view; and that copies of all the Proceedings of the Committee be transmitted to Captain Drummond.

The Committee, understanding that Dr. Spry had been some time in attendance with the expectation of an interview; but that he had left the house:

Resolved,—That the Committee much regret not having had the pleasure of an interview with Dr. Spry, on his return to Bengal; that a letter be addressed to him to this effect; and that in accepting his offer to promote the views of the Committee in the part of Bengal to which he is proceeding, as recorded on the Minutes of a former day, the Committee feel assured they may anticipate much valuable aid from his exertions.

A Paper, on the cultivated Oil and Cordage Plants of the Dekhan, by Lieutenant-Colonel Sykes, was read to the Committee, and ordered to be printed in this day's Proceedings. (*Vide p. 22.*)

Resolved,—That the thanks of the Committee to Colonel Sykes, be recorded.

*Account of the cultivated Oil and Cordage Plants of Dekhan,
by Colonel Sykes, F.R.S.**

KURDEE, Kurtuh, Koosoom; *Carthamus persicus*. Flowers not used as a dye, sown with shaloo (*Andropogon sorghum*) in the proportions of 1 to 8, returns 53 for 1; ripe the end of March. The seeds produce an edible oil, which is esteemed when fresh; it is in use also as a lamp-oil. Forty-eight seers of seed produce 7½ seers of oil, or more than 15 per cent. weight against bulk. The price of the seed in the Serroor market, in August 1825, was 20 seers bulk for two shillings; but this was dear. Price of the oil at the same time 3½ seers, or about 7 lbs. avoirdupois, for two shillings; same name of Koosomb to both species. In times of scarcity, the seeds are eaten whole as food, also the leaves as greens. The oil-cake is highly nourishing to milch cattle. Price, 80 seers, or about 160 lbs. avoirdupois, per two shillings.

This article is not in any Commercial Price Current.

Juwus, Atahsf, Teesee; *Linum usitatissimum*. Flax, cultivated only for its oil, used in lamps. The return about 20 for 1. In a stone-mill, 4 seers measure of seed produce one of oil. Price of the seed in Poona, January 1825,

* Colonel Sykes' mode of spelling Oriental words is adhered to in this paper.—Ed.

sixteen seers for two shillings ; this was dear. Oil used medicinally. Oil-cake given to cattle. The seed itself eaten by man, in condiments, made up of the Kursee Neemb (*Bergera Kœnigii*), capsicums, &c.

This article is not in a late Bombay Price Current.

Moharree, Rajeeaká, Race; *Sinapis racemosa*. Two other kinds of mustard-seed are also cultivated; Race Pandree, or white mustard, and Manjuria, black mustard-seed. As a field produce, these kinds are cultivated for their edible oil, used also medicinally for rheumatism; but almost every part of the plant is used either as greens or condiment. Price of moharree at Serroor, in August 1825, 8 seers, or 16 lbs., for two shillings; the other kinds about 25 per cent. cheaper.

This article is not in a late Bombay Price Current.

Yerund-tambra, Wahyágrah-dallah, Erand; *Ricinus communis*. Common red castor-oil, a perennial plant of 20 feet high, but is cut down yearly. The seeds are used to produce a lamp rather than a medicinal oil. I found 4 seers measure to produce 1 seer, or 2 lbs. weight, of oil, or 25 per cent. The leaves are in universal use for poultices for Naroo or Guinea worm, inflammation of the eyes, severe head-ach, bruises, &c. The flowers are given to women four months gone with child, and the leaves are used as a febrifugo.

Several species of *Ricinus* are cultivated in Dekhan.

In a Bombay Price Current of the 28th January, 1837, castor-oil is stated at 4 rupees the maund of 28 lbs., or 3½ lbs. for a shilling.

Teel, Teelhah, Til; *Sesamum orientale*, or *indicum*. There are two varieties, the white seeded, and that with blackish-red seeds. Although not a bread grain, Teel is used for many economical purposes. The seed is too oily to be made into flour, but it is toasted and sprinkled on bajree (*Panicum spicatum*) bread, indeed, upon any kind of bread. It is used in many compound dishes; various sweetmeats are made with it, but it is principally esteemed for its valuable and agreeable oil. Three seers bulk of the seed produce one seer weight of oil, or 33½ per cent. This oil is preferred in cooking to all others. I say nothing of the extensive use of the seed and oil in religious ceremonies. The oil-cake is eaten by the farmers with salt and pepper. Price in the Poona market, in January 1835, 5 seers per rupee. In October of the same year I counted 103 capsules on one plant, averaging 68 seeds each, giving a return of 7208 for one.

This valuable seed is not in a late Bombay Price Current.

Karleh, Kalce-Teel. *Verbesina sativa*. From its being frequently called Kaleh-Teel (black sesamun), it is confounded by Europeans, not botanists, with the sesamun, but it is an entirely different plant. Its seed produces an edible oil, which is the great substitute for Ghee (clarified butter), with the poorer classes of the cultivators and the population generally; 12 seers of seed in bulk in a stone mill produce 3 seers, or 6 lbs., of oil in weight, or 25 per cent. Price at Neelsee in April 1825, 20 seers measure for two shillings. The oil-cake is in high esteem for milch-cows; price at Poona in January 1825, 60 seers, or 120 lbs., for two shillings. Feverish and asthmatic persons, and those whose digestion is not strong, cannot eat the karleh oil

with impunity. As an edible grain, karleh is only used in acid and pungent condiments.

Unnoticed in Price Current.

Mohha, Maddoodloomah, Mohha; *Bassia latifolia*. A handsome forest-tree. The well-known ardent spirit called mowra, is obtained from the inflated fleshy tubes of the corolla. The dried flowers are an article of trade; they have a slight resemblance to the dried seedless grape, and are not disagreeable in flavour. The seeds of the fruit produce a thick edible oil. The bark of the tree is used in obtaining a brown colour. Wood of the tree durable, and compact.

The article is unknown in Price Currents.

Char, Peeyalah, Peeyal; *Chironjia sapida*. A forest tree. The seeds of the fruit are much esteemed for their fine flavour. A medicinal oil is extracted from them which is considered efficacious in bile and phlegm. Price of the kernels or seeds at Poona, in January and February 1825, 4 pounds, avoirdupois, for two shillings.

Unnoticed in Price Currents.

CORDAGE PLANTS.

Ambaree; *Hibiscus cannabinus*. This plant produces an oil-seed; but it is principally cultivated for its bark for cordage. The plant sometimes attains the height of 12 feet; usually 5 or 6. Bark separated by steeping. The bark is called waak. Price at Poona, March, 1825, best kind, 10 lbs. for two shillings, and second kind, 12 lbs. The oil from the seed is scarcely deemed edible; in pressing it, therefore, the seed is frequently mixed with the seeds of the verbesina and linum. Price of Ambaree seed at Ambagaon, February 1826, 120 lbs. for two shillings. Price of the bark, or waak, 16 lbs. for two shillings. The length of the fibre is of course proportioned to the growth of the plant. Both cordage and twine made from it are very strong. At present, very little more is cultivated than is required by the farmer himself, for his own use.

Unnoticed in Price Currents.

Taag, Shumum, Sun; *Crotolaria juncea*. Bengal Hemp. The stalks are wand-like, and 5 or 6 feet long. One hundred bundles, each bundle containing from 400 to 450 stalks, produce from 12 to 16 lbs. of fibre, which, in January and February 1826, sold at the rate of 12 lbs. for two shillings. During the rains, the farmer and his family make their own twine, which they weave into pieces of very coarse canvass, called gohupant, from 30 to 40 feet long, and 10 inches wide. These are made into canvass bags, called gohnees, for the conveyance of grain on the backs of bullocks; into coverings for the saddles of camels; into large sheets, in which the baggage is tied up on the backs of elephants and camels; into pack-saddles, &c. &c. All the writing paper in common use in Dekhan, is manufactured from old and worn out grain-bags, and other articles made from the fibres of Taag.

In a Bombay Price Current, of January 28, 1837, Gujerat hemp is stated at 68 rupees the candy of 784 lbs., or 5½ lbs. for a shilling.

Cocoa-nut oil being now imported into England, in considerable quantities, I shall only express my opinion, that its present retail price, of 4s. 6d. per gallon, weighing 9 lbs., must give an enormous profit, as the cost-price, at Bombay, on the 28th of January, 1837, was 1s. 9d. for 18 lbs. avoirdupois; and in Ceylon it is much less. In fact, the present charge upon the cost-price, is 312 per cent. I must express my regret also, that it is not more generally used in England; for, instead of the detestable smell of fish-oil, it has rather an agreeable odour; and it is readily consumed in open glass vessels, with floating, or standing wicks, whatever the temperature of the air may be.

At a future period, I shall be happy, if it be desirable, to give an account of the plants producing aromatic seeds, which are generally cultivated in Dekhan, and the seeds are very cheap. Also an account of the plants used in dyeing, tanning, wild cordage and oil plants, &c.

I have purposely excluded from the above accounts all systematic details respecting the cultivation, time of flowering, returns, &c., of the various plants; believing that such details could not be of any interest to the merchant or manufacturer in Great Britain. If it were desirable, I could furnish the medicinal properties of the plants, according to the Hindoos.

The first name of each plant is in the Mahratta language, the second name in Sanscrit, the third in Hindostanee, and the fourth is the botanical name.

The standard measure of capacity in the Dekhan is called an adholee, of 2 seers. Of small grained rice it contains 4 lbs. 12 oz. 7 dwts. 22½ grains, avoirdupois weight. It contains a weight of water, at a temperature of 75° Fahr., of 5 lb. 3 oz. 3 dwts. 5½ grains, or 144·4 cubic inches; and at a temperature of 60° Fahr., it contains 48 per cent. less than an imperial gallon, or very nearly two quarts. Rigidly the seer of capacity is 4·17 per cent. larger than an imperial quart. Measures of capacity and weights, however, differ a good deal in different market-towns. The standard seer of weight is equal to 80 Arkoosee rupees, or 1 lb. 15 oz. 8 dwts. 18½ grains, avoirdupois; but the seer commonly in use weighs only 76 rupees.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

AUGUST 5, 1837.

A COMMITTEE was held this day at one o'clock.

Present:—The Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston; Sir Charles Forbes, Bart.; Sir Henry Willock; W. Jerdan, Esq.; Captain Jervis; L. H. Petit, Esq.; Colonel Sykes.

The Right Hon. SIR ALEXANDER JOHNSTON in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Committee were read and confirmed.

The Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston informs the Committee that, in obedience to their wishes, he has conferred at considerable length with the Right Hon. Stewart Mackenzie, who is going out as Governor of the Island of Ceylon, upon the best measures to be adopted for improving the Agriculture and Commerce of that island; that, in order to put Mr. Mackenzie in possession of his views upon the question, he has given him a paper, of which the following is a copy, containing an account of what he himself did so far back as 1809, and what he now advises Mr. Mackenzie to do upon the subject.

“Sir Alexander Johnston, having, in 1807, while Chief Justice and First Member of His Majesty’s Council, at the request of the then Governor of Ceylon, Sir Thomas Maitland, made a circuit through every part of the British territories on that island, for the purpose of obtaining accurate local information upon every subject connected with the interests of the island, was, in 1809, sent officially to England by Sir Thomas, in order that he might lay before His Majesty’s ministers, his (Sir Alexander’s) reasons for advising a variety of different measures, which he had suggested to the local government as necessary to improve the condition of the natives, and the agriculture of the country.

“The following are the measures which he submitted to the Marquis of Londonderry, the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, as necessary to improve the Agriculture of the island.

“1. That every possible encouragement be held out, both by the

government in England, and the government on Ceylon, to all capitalists, as well Europeans as natives of India, of every caste and religious persuasion, in order to induce them to embark their capital in the repair of all the tanks, great and small, and all the water-courses which were formerly in a state of repair, but which are now in ruins; and thereby again bring into cultivation all those lands which are now lying waste and unproductive, but which were in ancient times highly cultivated, and produced rice enough, not only to supply the inhabitants of the island itself, but also, in years of distress, to afford considerable aid to the inhabitants of the southern part of the Peninsula of India.

"2. That all the restrictions which now prevail on Ceylon against allowing Europeans to hold lands by grant from the local government, or to acquire them by purchase or gift from individuals, in perpetuity, be annulled, and that Europeans as well as natives, be allowed to acquire and hold lands without any restriction or limitation whatever; and that the local government be authorized by Parliament to grant all the lands over which they have any control, on the most advantageous terms which can be devised for the individuals, whether Europeans or natives of India, who may apply for them.

"3. That an order of nobility, with such distinctions and privileges attached to it, as may be the most gratifying to the feelings of the natives of India, be established by His Majesty, for the purpose of rewarding all persons, Europeans as well as natives of India, who may either bring a certain quantity of waste land into cultivation, or introduce with success any measure which has a direct tendency to improve the Agriculture of the country; that these honours be conferred by the Governor at a public meeting of the natives from every part of the island, to be held annually, for the express purpose of ascertaining the quantity of waste land which has been brought into cultivation during the year, the particular merits of each person who claims a reward for his exertions in favour of Agriculture during that year, and the different measures which ought to be adopted, either by government or by individuals, for the purpose of increasing and improving the cultivation of the country.

"4. That a detailed account of the honours conferred upon each individual, and of the reasons for conferring them, be made public, not only throughout the island of Ceylon, but throughout every part of the British possessions in India.

"5. That models of all the machines, tools, and implements, which have been found in different parts of the world to be of use in Agriculture, be procured at the expense of government, and be exhibited and explained at the above meeting, by persons employed by government, to all the natives who may attend that meeting, from every part of the island, in order that they may, from their local knowledge, be enabled to decide which, if any, of the machines, tools, or implements, may be of use to Agriculture in their respective provinces.

"6. That a provincial experimental farm and botanical garden be established in each of the provinces of Ceylon; and that a central experimental farm and botanical garden be established at Colombo, the former being subordinate to, and in correspondence with, the latter.

" 7. That reports be drawn up at the expense of government, of all the lands which are cultivated, and of all those which are uncultivated, in each province, with a topographical map of the province annexed to it, specifying the nature of the lands which are uncultivated, whether they were formerly cultivated, and if so, why they are at present uncultivated; the number and situation of the tanks or water-courses by which these lands were formerly irrigated; the sum of money it would cost to repair the tanks and water-courses; the rivers, if any, in each province, which were or might be made available, either for the purpose of irrigation, or for that of water-carriage; the number and nature of the different descriptions of trees which grow in the province; the purposes to which the wood of each description of tree may be applicable; the mode in which, and the expense at which, the wood may be conveyed from every part of the province to the sea-coast; the nature of the climate,—its probable effect upon the constitution of a native of Europe, or upon that of a native of Asia; the extent and nature of the population of the province; the probable prospect of increasing it by the introduction of people from different parts of Asia; and every other circumstance which may be necessary to enable the people of Europe, or the people of Asia, to form an opinion as to the advantage or disadvantage of embarking their capital in speculations for the improvement of the Agriculture of the province.

" 8. That the government-monopoly of the cultivation of, and trade in, cinnamon be abolished, and that every person, European or native, on the island, be allowed to cultivate and trade in cinnamon.

" 9. That the growth of coffee and sugar-cane, and the manufacture of sugar, be encouraged by government in every way.

" 10. That an agricultural code of law, applicable to the situation of the country, and the circumstances of the natives, be framed, for the guidance of all those who may be engaged in, or connected with, the Agriculture of the country. That this code be administered by courts constituted for the purpose, in which the parties interested in a suit may obtain redress with the least possible expense, delay, or inconvenience; and in which every man connected with the agriculture of the country may be certain of being efficiently protected against every description of oppression.

" 11. That the power of the local governor to send Europeans, or any other individuals, out of the island without trial be annulled; and that it be enacted by an Act of Parliament, that no European, or other person, be sent out of the island on any pretence whatever by the governor, except he be first tried by a court of justice, and convicted by a jury of some specific offence, to which the punishment of banishment is attached by law.

" 12. That every description of slavery, whether domestic or attached to caste, be abolished.

" 13. That the right exercised by government, of forcing particular classes of natives to work at a fixed price for their labour be abolished.

" 14. That every native of the island, as well as every European, have a right, subject to certain qualifications, to sit upon juries, and to be tried by a jury of his own countrymen for any criminal offence with which he may be charged.

" 15. That a Special Act of Parliament, similar in principle to the Habeas Corpus Act in England, be made for protecting all Europeans, and all natives on the island of Ceylon, against any illegal imprisonment or detention whatsoever.

" 16. That a Constitution, also similar in principle to the British Constitution, but so modified as to suit the religious and moral feelings of the natives, and the peculiar circumstances of the country, be guaranteed, by an Act of Parliament, to all the inhabitants of the island.

" 17. That measures be taken for forming a respectable constituency amongst the natives of the country in each province, who shall have the right of sending one or more of their own countrymen, according to their numbers, and other circumstances, to be arranged hereafter, as their Representatives in a Legislative Assembly, which shall be assembled in a central part of the island, to legislate according to rules, which shall be hereafter fixed by themselves, for the inhabitants of the island.

" 18. That a general system of education, [including such branches of mechanics and chemistry as are applicable to the purposes of agriculture and manufactures, be established throughout the island.

" 19. That all the restrictions which are now in force against Catholics be abolished, and that they be put precisely on the same footing as Protestants.

" 20. That no more persons be appointed to the civil service; and that at the expiration of the time of service of the present civil servants, they be allowed, if they wish it, to retire on their respective pensions.

" 21. That every native, as well as every European, on Ceylon, be eligible, if properly qualified, to hold any of those civil offices which have hitherto been held by civil servants alone.

" 22. That the ports of Point de Galle, Jaffna, and Trincomalee, be declared free ports.

" 23. That the narrow passage in the Gulf of Manar, called the Pom-
baum Passage, be deepened, so as to admit of vessels drawing from ten to twelve feet water, to pass through it without unloading.

[The object of this measure is to enable trading vessels from any part of the Arabian and Persian Gulfs, or of the Coast of Malabar, to sail directly to and from Jaffna and Trincomalee, without the danger or expense of going round Point de Galle.]

" 24. That the entrance into the Cochin River, on the Malabar Coast, be improved so as to admit of large vessels coming into that port. That the Admiralty be urged to build ships of war there, the price of building them, owing the quantity of teak-wood in the neighbourhood, being much less than in England or at Bombay; and that a water-communication be opened between the coast of Malabar and that of Coromandel, through the break in the Ghauts called the Palighatcheri Pass, by uniting the river Paniyani, which flows into the sea on the coast of Malabar, with the rivers Caveri and Colerun, which flow into the sea on the coast of Coromandel.

[The object of this measure is to revive the trade which formerly prevailed between every part of the Gulfs of Arabia and Persia, and the Southern Peninsula of India; and which trade was directly the cause of a very considerable trade between the Southern Peninsula of India and the northern part of the Island of Ceylon, and, indirectly, the cause of the then improved state of the agriculture of that part of the island.]

" 25. That an Agricultural and Commercial Committee, to consist of persons acquainted with the Island of Ceylon, and of merchants and capitalists, interested in the agriculture and trade of that island, be formed in England, for the purpose of improving the agriculture, manufactures, and trade of Ceylon, and protecting the rights, privileges, and interests of all the merchants and capitalists who may be engaged in the agriculture, manufactures, and trade of that island.

" The late Marquis of Londonderry, who was Secretary of State for the Colonies in 1809, when Sir Alexander Johnston reached England, agreed in opinion with Sir Alexander Johnston as to the policy of all these measures, and would, had he continued in office, have authorized the local government to carry the whole of them into immediate effect. The Marquis having, however, soon after given up office, and been succeeded by Lord Liverpool, his policy was not acted upon to so great an extent as was originally intended by him; and the following only of the measures submitted to the Marquis of Londonderry, in 1809, by Sir Alexander Johnston, have been as yet carried into effect.

" The measure for authorizing every native of the island to sit upon a jury, and to be tried by a jury of his own countrymen, for any criminal offence with which he may be charged; that for freeing Catholics from the legal disabilities under which they had previously laboured on account of their religious persuasion; that for abolishing all forced labour, and domestic slavery; that for abolishing the restrictions against Europeans holding lands under grant, gift, or purchase, in perpetuity; and that for encouraging the growth of coffee and sugar-cane, and the manufacture of sugar, and of abolishing the monopoly of cinnamon.

" Sir Alexander Johnston, since he proposed the various measures which have been mentioned to the Marquis of Londonderry, has devoted his attention, for eight-and-twenty years, to the affairs of India in general and to those of Ceylon, and is still decidedly of opinion that the whole of those measures ought to be carried into effect; and should Mr. Stewart Mackenzie be of the same opinion with him after his arrival on Ceylon, he would advise him to take the necessary steps, without delay, for carrying into effect such of them as have not yet been adopted; and with a view of enabling His Majesty's Ministers, and the British public, to become acquainted with the nature, and to appreciate the value of the lands at the disposal of the Ceylon government, to cause to be made out, and forwarded to His Majesty's Ministers, for the information of the British public, such reports* respecting the waste lands in each of the provinces of Ceylon, as Sir Alexander advised to be done in 1809."

Sir Alexander Johnston having read the above paper to the Committee, adds, that the details of these different measures are more fully explained, first, in the copies of the reports made by Capt. Schneider, of the Ceylon Engineers, in the years 1807 and 1808, the originals of which Sir Alexander Johnston brought to England with him in 1809, and deposited in the office of the Secretary of State for the Colonies; secondly, in the correspondence between Lord Liverpool, Sir Joseph Banks, and Sir Alexander Johnston,

* See Proposition 7.

in 1810, on the subject of establishing a Royal Botanical Garden on Ceylon, which, on his suggestion, was established at Colombo, in the year 1811, for the purpose of aiding the agricultural improvements which were about to be made on the island; and, thirdly, in the published evidence given by Sir Alexander Johnston, before a Committee of the House of Commons in 1832, and the papers delivered by him to the Committee at the same time. (*Vide* Minutes of Evidence, Affairs of the East India Company, Judicial, 1832.)

The Committee approved the steps taken by the Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston in this matter, and

Resolved,—That the paper, and what he said upon the occasion, be inserted in the Proceedings of this day.

Read a letter from Lieut. Wellsted, on the subject of the Shennah Moss, of the Island of Socotra, which was brought to the notice of the Committee on a former day, (*vide* Proceedings, p. 12,) in reply to a letter from the Secretary, requesting him to communicate any information he may be possessed of on the subject, and to oblige the Committee by furnishing specimens of the moss. Lieut. Wellsted stated that he had little further to communicate; that there was found a Red Moss on the same island, as well as the Gray Moss he had reported upon, but that he had no specimens of either. He suggested that the Committee should address a letter to Admiral Sir Charles Malcolm, at Bombay, under whose directions vessels are constantly visiting the island, requesting him to direct a collection of specimens of those Mosses to be made for the Committee, and to furnish any further particulars respecting them.

Resolved,—That a letter be addressed to Admiral Sir C. Malcolm, as suggested by Lieut. Wellsted.

Read a letter from the Treasurer of the Committee, dated the 17th of June last, reporting the transfer of £250, out of the donation of Sir Henry Worsley, to the credit of the Committee; also reporting that he has carried to the same account the sum of £123 18s., the amount of subscriptions and donations received.

The following letter, from the Secretary to the East India Company, in reply to a letter from this Committee, transmitting a copy of Mr. Ashburner's paper read on the 26th of May last, and requesting to be furnished with a statement of the roads constructed in India within the last twenty years, as per resolution of that date, (see p. 13,) was read to the Committee.

" Sir,

" *East India House, 29th June, 1837.*

" I am commanded by the Court of Directors of the East India Company to return the acknowledgements of the Court for the memorandum by Mr. Ashburner, transmitted with your letter of the 13th instant, which the Court propose to bring to the notice of the Government of India. And

I am further directed to inform you, with reference to your request, to be furnished, for the use of the Committee of Agriculture and Commerce of the Royal Asiatic Society, with an abstract statement of the roads which have been constructed at the several Presidencies of India, within the last twenty years, that the Court regret that no such statement as is required by the Society exists at this House, and that the preparation of such a statement here would be a work of much time and labour.

" I am, Sir, &c., &c.,

" (Signed) JAMES C. MELVILL."

" *To H. Harkness, Esq.*"

The Secretary reported that, in obedience to a resolution of the 26th of May last, a paper of instructions to the Collectors of Cotton Soils, and a list of inquiries on the subject of Cotton cultivation, had been prepared and forwarded to His Britannic Majesty's Consuls at Savannah and New Orleans, through the medium of the Secretary of State's Office.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1836.

A GENERAL Meeting of the Society was held this day ; Major General
Sir JAMES LAW LUSHINGTON, K.C.B., in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

The following donations were laid upon the table :—

From W. H. Wathen, Esq.

A Hindú Drama in the Sanskrit language, entitled *Jánaka Parinaya*, written by Rambhadra Dikshita, a learned Brahman, who flourished about the sixth century. MS., beautifully written on English paper, with finely executed illustrative drawings, coloured.

A Grammar of the Prakrita language. Sanskrit MS.

Both these works were accompanied by analytical notices, by Mr. Wathen.

From Captain R. Cogan, M.R.A.S.

A Chart of the Red Sea. Two sheets ; mounted on rollers.

From the Rev. C. Gutzlaff.

A Chinese Map of Pekin ; on rollers.

From the Author.

Topographical Survey of Thebes. By J. G. Wilkinson, Esq. 1830.
Six Sheets. fol.

From Manockjee Cursetjee, Esq., M.R.A.S.

A Lithographed Edition of the *Vendidád*. fol.

From Sir Graves C. Haughton, M.R.A.S.

Copy of a Report to the Court of Directors on the importance of the Study of Sanskrit, &c. ; with other documents on the same subject. MS. 4to.

Catalogue of Oriental MSS. in the College of Fort William.

Translation of a Treaty with Tipú Sahib.

A Code of Laws, as established at Fort Marlborough. 1817. 4to.

From the Translator.

Grammaire Turke, &c., par A. L. Davids; traduit de l'Anglais par Madame S. Davids. A Londres, 1836. 4to.

From the Author.

Mémoire sur Deux Inscriptions Cunéiformes trouvées près d'Hamadan. Par M. Burnouf. Paris, 1836. 4to.

From the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

The Mahābhārata. Vol. II. Sansc. Calc., 1836. 4to.

Journal of the Society, Nos. 50 to 53, inclusive.

From the Zoological Society of London.

Its "Transactions." Vol. II. Part II.

From the Imperial Academy of St. Petersburg.

Mémoires de l'Académie Impériale, &c. VI^{me} Série. Tome III., Liv. 2—5; and Tome IV., Liv. 1. St. Petersburg, 1834-5. 4to.

Recueil des Actes de la Séance Publique de l'Académie Impériale, &c. St. Petersburg, 1836. 4to.

From the Royal College of Surgeons.

Descriptive Catalogue of the Physiological Series of Comparative Anatomy, contained in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons. Vol. III. Part II. 4to. 1836.

From the Royal Society of London.

Philosophical Transactions for 1836. Part I.

Proceedings of the Royal Society. 1835-6.

From the Linneæan Society of London.

Its "Transactions." Vol. XVII. Part III.

From the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Report of the Fifth Meeting of the British Association, &c. Lond., 1836. 8vo.

From the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India.

Its "Transactions." Vol. II. Calc., 1836. 8vo.

From the Royal Geographical Society.

Its "Journal." Vol. VI. Part II.

From the Geographical Society of Paris.

Bulletin de la Société de Géographie, &c. Tome V. Paris, 1836. 8vo.

From the Academy of Sciences at Dijon.

Mémoires de l'Académie, &c. 1835. 8vo.

From the Devon and Exeter Institution.

A Catalogue of the Library, &c. 8vo. 1836.

From the Bahama Society for the Diffusion of Knowledge
Its "Journal." Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14. 1836.

From the Editor.

The India Journal of Medical and Physical Science. Edited by F. Corbyn, Esq. Vol. I. Nos. 1, 2, 3. New Series. Calc., 1836. 8vo.

From the Author.

An Essay on the Primitive Universal Standard of Weights and Measures. By Captain T. B. Jervis. Calc., 1835. 12mo.

From the Author.

Arboretum Britannicum, &c. By J. C. Loudon, Esq. Nos. 23 to 30, inclusive.

From the Author.

Invasions des Sarrazins en France, &c. Par M. Reynaud. Paris, 1836. 12mo.

From the Author.

Lettres sur l'Histoire des Arabes avant l'Islamisme. Par F. Fresnel. Paris, 1836. 8vo.

From the Author.

Dissertation Abrégée sur le Ta-tsin, &c. Par M. de Paravey. Pamph.

From Lieut. P. Rainer, R.N.

The original stone brought by his late father from Nubia, bearing the Latin acrostic, a *fac simile* of which was published in the Transactions of the R. A. S., Vol. III., p. 261.

A stuffed specimen of the Puff-Adder, with the poison preserved in the fangs.

Dried specimen of the Saw-fish.

Specimens of the *Ornithorhynchus paradoxus*, male and female, from New South Wales.

A Nepalese sword.

From the Author.

Etudes de Géographie Critique sur une partie de l'Afrique, &c. Paris, 1836. 12mo.

From the Right Hon. Sir A. Johnston, V.P.R.A.S.

The Renovation of India, &c. By Dr. Thomas Brown. Edinb., 1820. 16mo.

From Captain J. Mackenzie, C.M.R.A.S.

Image of *Durga*, in Jyepoor marble.

Ditto of *Vishnu*, in ditto.

Ditto of *Garura*, in ditto.

Ditto of *Saraswatî*, in ditto.

Two images of the Planets, in Gyal marble.

Model of the *Dunya*, an instrument for beating out cotton.

A *Chumoutce*, or brass stand, for holding red earth for marking the forehead, rice for the *pūja*, &c.

A copper *Ghurri*, or clepsydra.

The *Ghaou mukhi*, a kind of glove worn on the right hand by Brahmins and other devotees at prayer, and in which they count their beads.

A string of Brahminical beads.

The *Ganga-jali*, for holding the sacred water.

Specimens of the *rakhi*; Brahminical bracelets.

Specimens of *Kuntis*, or necklaces.

The *Poita*, or Brahminical cord of the Western provinces.

Brass model of the *Lota*.

A bell used at the *pūja*.

Two specimens of varnished boxes from Benares.

A Hindú Almanack for the year 1835. MS.

Two fans or screens of split straw, from Monghys.

A *belua*, for rolling out cakes.

From Colonel Stroker, M.R.A.S.

The skin of a Boa-Constrictor, more than thirteen feet in length.

A Mandarin's dirk.

From Lieutenant Newbold.

A Malayan *Sampitan*, or Blow Pipe, used by the aborigines of the interior of the Malay Peninsula.

A quiver of poisoned arrows: and two packets of the *Upas* poison.

From the Author.

Fables de Lokman, adaptées à l'Idiome d'Alger, &c. 12mo.

Principes de l'Idiome Arabe en usage à Alger. 12mo.

Vocabulaire Berbère Français, &c. Par J. H. Delaporte.

From Senhor J. J. da Costa de Macedo, F.M.R.A.S.

Vida de D. João de Castro; por D. Fr. Francisco de S. Luiz. Lisboa 1835. 4to.

From the Author.

Memoria Estatistica sobre os Dominios Portuguezes na Africa Oriental. Por S. X. Botelho. Lisboa, 1835. 12mo.

From the Author.

Lehrsaal des Mittelreiches. München, 1836. 4to.

From the Author.

A Criticism on Grimm's and Graff's German Grammars. By Professor Bopp. Berlin, 1836. 8vo.

From the Author.

Die Regenwürmer auf den Feldern der Orientalischen Numismatik, untersucht von. Dr. E. Adernson. Leipsic, 1836. Pamph.

From the Rev. J. Wilson, Pres. Bombay Branch R.A.S.

The Oriental Christian Spectator. Various Nos. Bombay, 1836.

From Professor Ritter, F.M.R.A.S.

The following Tracts written by him :—

1. Die Elephant Indiens.
2. Die Opiumcultuur und die Mohnpflanze.
3. Das Löwen-und Tiger-Land in Asien, &c.
4. Der Indische Feigenbaum, &c.

From Charles Beke, Esq.

His Defence of his Origines Biblicæ, against the Critiques of Dr. Paulus. In German. Pamphlet.

From Messrs. Fisher and Son.

Syria, the Holy Land, &c., illustrated. Parts 5, 6, 7.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

The Secretary read a letter from Major-General Sir HENRY WORSLEY, dated the 5th of July, 1836, in which the General, after adverting to the incidental observations which had of late occasionally appeared in regard to the funds of the Society's being inadequate to the useful purposes contemplated by the Society, begged to tender a Bank Post Bill for One Hundred Pounds, to be appropriated in the way that might be deemed best calculated to promote the utility, and enhance the reputation of the Society.

Resolved unanimously

That the special thanks of the Society be returned to Sir Henry Worsley, for his very liberal donation.

Dr. A. Campbell, of the Nepal Residency, and M. Bojer, Esq., of the Isle of France, were elected Corresponding Members of the Society; Colonel E. L. Smythe, of the Madras Army, was elected a Resident Member.

A paper¹ by Lieutenant Reynolds, of the Madras Army, on the Thags, communicated by Colonel Smythe, was read before the Meeting; and the thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned for the communication.

DECEMBER 17, 1836.

A GENERAL Meeting was held this day: the Right Hon. the EARL OF MUNSTER, V.P., in the Chair.

The following donations were presented :—

From the Imperial Society of Natural History of Moscow.

Nouveaux Mémoires de la Société, &c. Tome IV. Moscow, 1835. 4to.
Bulletin de la Société Impériale, &c. Tome IX. Moscow, 1836. 8vo.

¹ Printed in the present Volume.

From the Author.

The following Papers read before the Royal Irish Academy:—

1. On an Astronomical Instrument of the ancient Irish; 2. On the Ring-money of the Celts; 3. On the affinity of the Phœnician and Celtic Languages: by Sir William Betham.

From the Author.

An Account of the Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians. By E. W. Lane, Esq. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1836.

From Mahárdjâ Kali Krishna Bahádar.

His Map of the World in Hindustani; two copies.

From the Right Hon. Sir R. J. Wilmot Horton, Bart.

The Ceylon Almanack for 1836. Colombo. 8vo.

From Professor Frachn, F.M.R.A.S.

An Essay on the Writing of the Russians in the Tenth Century. St. Petersburg, 1835. 4to.

An Explanation of an Arabic Inscription in Imeritia. St. Petersburg, 1836. 4to.

A Visit to Mount Athos, &c.

From the Author.

Ritter's "Erdkunde von Asien." Vol. IV. Parts 5 and 6. Berlin, 1835-6. 8vo.

From John Gordon, Esq.

A Political Map of India. 1836.

From the Directors of the Hon. the East India Company.

Two sheets of the large Map of India now publishing under the auspices of the East India Company.

From Colonel Sykes, M.R.A.S.

His paper on the Quails and Hemipodii of India. (From the Zoological Transactions.)

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

William Oliver Esq., of the Madras Civil Service, was elected a Resident Member of the Society.

A paper on the Antiquity of the Armenian Language, by Arganoon Arratoon, with notes and illustrations by T. M. Dickenson, Esq., was read to the Meeting.

A paper by W. C. Bruce, Esq., of the Bombay Civil Service, on the applicability to India of the Science of Political Economy as received in Europe, was also read.

JANUARY 7, 1837.

A GENERAL Meeting was held this day: Sir GEORGE T. STAUNTON, Bart., V. P., in the Chair.

The following donations were laid upon the table:—

From the British and Foreign Bible Society.

New Testament in Mandchou. 4to.
 Gospels in Syro-Chaldaic. 4to.
 New Testament in Piedmontese. 8vo.
 Ditto in New Zealand. 8vo.
 Gospels of Luke and John in French and Vaudois. 8vo.
 Gospels in Malayalim. 8vo.
 Part of St. Luke, in Berber. 8vo.
 Gospel of St. John in Maltese and Italian. 8vo.
 Greek Pentateuch. 12mo.
 Rarotonga Testament. 12mo.
 Catalanian Testament. 12mo.
 Latin Bible. 18mo.
 St. John's Gospel in Chippeway and English. 18mo.
 Malagasse Testament. 18mo.
 St. Matthew in Bullom and English, 18mo.
 Enghadine Testament. 18mo.
 St. Luke's Gospel in Mexican. 18mo.

From the Author.

Principles of Murathee Grammar. Calcutta, 1833. 4to.
 The Sanhita of the Rig-Veda; with English translation; by the Rev. J. Stevenson. Bombay, 1833. 8vo.

From the Geological Society.

Its "Transactions." Vol. IV. Part 2.

From the Author.

Specimen of a New Version of the Hebrew Bible. By S. Bennett.

From Captain R. M. Grindlay.

His Pamphlet on the State of the Question as to Steam Communication with India. London, 1837. 8vo.

From the Author.

Litteratur der Sanskrit-Sprache, von F. Adelung. St. Petersburg, 1837. 8vo.

From T. S. Spencer Smith, Esq.

His "Précis d'une Dissertation sur un Monument Arabe du Moyen Age en Normandie." Caen. Pamphlet.
 La Franco Littéraire, &c. Pamphlet.

From M. J. Desjardins.

Sixième Rapport Annuel sur les Travaux de la Société d'Histoire Naturelle de l'Île Maurice, 1835. 8vo.

From the Institute of British Architects.

Its "Transactions." Vol. I. Part 1.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

Ardaseer Cursetjee, Ardaseer Hormarjee, Cursetjee Jamsetjee, and Aga Mahomed Rahém Sherazee, of Bombay; and Chocapah Chetty, of Madras, Esquires, were elected Non-Resident Members.

James Henderson, Esq., G. R. Porter, Esq., John Grant Malcolmson, Esq., and John Richards, Esq., were elected Resident Members.

A paper by the late Thomas M. Dickenson, Esq., communicated by the Bombay Branch R. A. S., entitled, "An Enquiry into the Fate of the Ten Tribes of Israel after the Fall of Samaria, with a view of the History of the Assyrian Empire at that period," was read to the Meeting.

JANUARY 21, 1837.

A GENERAL Meeting was held this day; RICHARD CLARKE, Esq., in the Chair.

The following donations were laid upon the table:—

From Professor Lassen, F.M.R.A.S.

Gita Govinda, cum Interpretatione Latina. Christianus Lassen. Bonnæ, 1836. 4to.

From the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

Its "Transactions." Vol. XIII. Part 2.

Its "Proceedings." Nos. 4 to 9, inclusive.

From Charles P. Cooper, Esq.

Three Pamphlets on subjects connected with the Record Commission.

From Solomon Bennett, Esq.

The following of his Pamphlets:—

Critical Investigations into the Merits of a Lecturo, &c. Two copies.

A Discourse on Sacrifices, &c. Two copies.

The Molten Sea, &c.

The Temple of Ezekiel.

A Treatise on the Primogeniture and Integrity of the Holy Language.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

A paper by the late T. M. Dickenson, Esq., entitled, "An Enquiry into the Fate of the Ten Tribes of Israel after the Fall of Samaria," was read to the Meeting.

FEBRUARY 4, 1837.

A GENERAL Meeting was held this day; Major Sir HENRY WILLOCK, and, afterwards, the Right Hon. Sir GORE OUSELEY, Bart., *Vice-President*, in the Chair.

The following donations were presented:—

From the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

Asiatic Researches. Vol. XX. Part. I.

Journal of the Society. Various Nos.

From the Abbé Dubois, F.M.R.A.S.

Annales de la Propagation de la Foi. No. 56.

From the Geological Society.

Its "Proceedings." No. 47.

From Professor Garcin de Tassy, F.M.R.A.S.

Les Œuvres de Wali, Traduction et Notes. Par M. Garcin de Tassy. Paris, 1886. 4to.

Manuel de l'Auditeur du Cours d'Hindoustani. Paris, 1836. 8vo.

From Professor Weyers.

Catalogus Centurio Librorum rarissimorum Manusc. et partim Impressorum, Arabicorum, Persicorum, &c. &c. Lugd. Bat., 1836. 4to.

From M. Guizot, Ministre de l'Instruction Publique.

Voyage dans l'Inde, par M. Victor Jacquemont. Paris, 1835. 4to. Livs. 7, 8, 9, 10.

From Francis Baily, Esq., F.R.S.

His "Supplement to the Account of the Rev. John Flamsteed, the first Astronomer Royal." Lond., 1837. 4to.

Thanks were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

A Sketch of the Island of Borneo, by G. W. Earl, Esq., was read to the Meeting; and the thanks of the Society were returned to Mr. Earl for his communication.

The reading of a Paper by the Rev. C. Gutzlaff, on the state of the Art of Medicine amongst the Chinese, was commenced.

FEBRUARY 18, 1837.

A GENERAL MEETING was held this day ; the Right Hon. Sir
ALEXANDER JOHNSON, V. P., in the Chair.

The following donations were presented :—

From M. Salvolini.

His “Analyse Grammaticale Raisonnée de differens Textes Anciens Egyptiens.” Vol. I. Avec un Volume de Planches. Paris, 1836. 4to.

From the Royal Society of Arts.

Its “Transactions.” Vol. LI. Part I.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

The reading of the Rev. C. Gutzlaff’s paper on the Practice of Medicine by the Chinese was concluded.

A paper by J. R. Stewart, Esq., on a series of ancient Coins found in India, was read ; also a paper on some Inscriptions found on the Coast of Arabia, by Messrs. Hutton and Smith, two officers of the Indian Navy.

Thanks were ordered to be returned to the authors of these communications.

MARCH 4, 1837.

A GENERAL MEETING was held this day ; the Right Hon. the President
of the Society in the Chair.

The following donations were presented :—

From Henry Thomas Colebrooke, Esq., Director R.A.S.

His “Miscellaneous Essays.” Lond., 1837. Two vols. 8vo.

From the Author.

Su la Figura e l’Iscrizione Egizia incise in uno Smeraldo Antico, Lettera di Bernardo Quaranta. Napoli, 1836. 4to.

From J. C. Loudon, Esq.

His “Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum.” Nos. 31 to 35. ;

From the Rev. Dr. Nott.

A volume of a Chinese work on Medicine, Propitious Days, &c.

From the Author.

Lithographed portraits of the Persian Princes and their private Secretary. By J. Minasi. Proofs.

From Messrs. Fisher and Co.

Syria, &c., illustrated. Nos. 9, 10, 11.

From the Court of Directors of the Hon. the East India Company.

Johnson's Catalogue of 606 Principal Fixed Stars in the Southern Hemisphere. Lond., 1835. 4to.

From the Royal Astronomical Society.

Its "Memoirs." Vol. IX. Lond. 1836. 4to.

From the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

Its "Transactions." Part I. Vol. VI.

From Colonel Sykes.

His Paper on a portion of Dukhun, East Indies; from the Transactions of the Geological Society.

From Baron Hammer Purgstall.

His "Geschichte der Osmanischen Dichtkunst." Vol. II. Pest, 1837. 8vo.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

John Romer, Esq., was elected a Resident Member of the Society.

A Paper by Colonel Sykes, on the origin of the Popular Belief in the Upas or Poison Tree of Java; and an account of a Pedestrian Tour, made by Captain James Low, from Tavoy to the Siamese frontier, were read to the Meeting; and the thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned for these communications.

MARCH 18, 1837.

ON the Members assembling this day, the Right Honourable the President announced that in consequence of the decease of the respected Director of the Society, Mr. HENRY THOMAS COLEBROOKE, to whom the Society owed a debt of exceeding gratitude, not only for its first formation, but for the constant labour and attention which he bestowed upon it from the first year of its existence, the Council had judged proper, as a mark of respect due to the memory of the venerable founder of the Society, and as a token of regret for the loss it had sustained, to adjourn the present Meeting without proceeding to any business whatever.

The Meeting was consequently adjourned to the 1st of April.

APRIL 1, 1837.

A GENERAL Meeting was held this day; the Right Hon. the President of the Society in the Chair.

The following donations were laid upon the table:—

From Sir Graves C. Haughton, Lib. R.A.S.'

Four volumes of Documents prepared by the late Alexander Hamilton, Esq., when acting as Private Secretary to Lord Cornwallis during his first administration in Bengal; and which were obtained with a view to the perpetual settlement. They comprise financial statements from the Moghul Conquest to the time when the abstracts were collected. MS.

From the Author.

Esquisse Générale de l'Afrique. Paris, 1837. 18mo.

Notice des Travaux de la Société de Géographie de Paris. Par M. D'Arzac.

From the Author.

Two pamphlets on the Epidemic Cholera, and the Diseases of Tropical Climates. Lond. 1836. 12mo.

From John Reeves, Esq.

A Chinese Map of the City of Canton. MS.

From John Romer, Esq.

1. Mirat-i Alum; Universal History. Persian MS. Folio.
2. Tarikh-i-Negaristan. Persian. Lithog.
3. Kalila va Dimna; version of Abul Mala Nusr Allah. Persian MS.
4. Kalila va Dimna; Arabic verse. MS.
5. Marzaban Nameh; written A. H. 373. MS.
6. Mufarik al Gulub. Persian MS.
7. A Grammar of the Gujuratee Language. By the late W. Forbes Esq. Bombay. Lithog.

From Major Burt, F.R.S.

His "Miscellaneous Papers on Scientific Subjects, written chiefly in India." London, 1837. 12mo.

From the Royal Society of London.

Philosophical Transactions, for 1836. Part 2.

Proceedings of the Royal Society. Nos. 26, 27.

Address of the President, &c. Nov. 1836.

List of the Fellows of the Royal Society.

From the Editor.

Revue du Nord. Feb. 1837. Paris. 12mo.

From Colonel Sykes.

His Paper on the Increase of Wealth and Expenditure in the various Classes of Society in the United Kingdom; from the Transactions of the Statistical Society of London.

From M. De Paravey.

Two Pamphlets, by him, on some modern Discoveries, which were known to the ancients; and on Chinese Antiquities. Paris. 8vo.

From Sir Charles Forbes, Bart.

Horburgh's India Directory; with a short Memoir of the Author London, 1836. 4to.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

Captain Thomas Best Jervis was elected a Resident Member of the Society.

A Paper on the Causes which produce the Pattern or Watering in the Damascus Sword-blades, by H. Wilkinson, Esq., was read to the Meeting by that gentleman; and the thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to him for the same.

APRIL 15, 1837.

A GENERAL Meeting was held this day; the Right Hon. Sir ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, V. P. in the Chair.

The following donations were presented:—

From the Geological Society.

Its "Proceedings." Vol. II. Nos. 48, 49.

From the Author.

Remarks on Dr. Buckland's View of the Mosaic Creation, &c. By Eretzsepher. London, 1837. Pamphlet.

From the Chevalier Kovalevski, Professor of Mongolian Literature in the University of Kasan.

The following of his works, in Russian:—

Mongolian Chrestomathia. Vol. I. Kasan, 1836. 8vo.

A short Mongolian Grammar. 1835. 8vo.

Catalogue of Sanskrit, Mongolian, Tibetan, Mandchou, and Chinese Works in the Imperial University of Kasan.

Abstract of the Uligerun Dalai, or the Sea of Parables. Kasan, 1834. 8vo.

From Professor Rosellini, M.R.A.S.

I Monumenti dell' Egitto e della Nubia. Plates to the work. Parts 25, 26, 27, 28. Imperial folio.

From H. H. Spry, Esq., M.D.

The skull of Muchala, a Thag Chief, who was executed at Sauger, Central India, in July, 1833.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

Francis C. Brown, Esq., of Anjarakandy, Malabar; and the Rev. C. Gutzlaff, of Canton, were elected Corresponding Members of the Society.

J. G. Malcolmson, Esq., read to the Meeting a Paper, by himself, on the Saltness of the Red Sea.

A Paper on the first Translation of the Gospels into Arabic, by Baron Hammer Purgstall; and some Remarks on the Buddhist Priests of Siam, selected from the MSS. of Captain J. Low, were read to the Meeting.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the authors of these communications.

PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING
OF
THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY,
HELD ON THE 6TH OF MAY, 1837.

THE Fourteenth Anniversary was held this day at One o'Clock; the Right Hon. CHARLES W. WILLIAMS WYNN, M.P., the President of the Society, in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

The SECRETARY then read the following Report of the Council:—

ANNUAL REPORT,

MAY 6, 1837.

IN submitting the Report of its Proceedings for the past year, the Council has great satisfaction in being able to congratulate the Members on the continued prosperity of the Society.

For some years past the Council has had, on similar occasions to the present, to express its deep regret at the prolonged state of ill-health of the lamented Director of the Society. On this occasion the melancholy duty devolves upon it of recording his demise. It will be in the recollection of the Members, that, but a few weeks ago, this much to be regretted occurrence induced the Council to adjourn the usual General Meeting, and to testify, by every means in its power, the respect of the Society to the memory of Mr. COLEBROOKE. The Society cannot but feel the deepest concern at the loss of one who originally proposed its formation, and who so ably contributed to support its character and efficiency. In accordance with this feeling, therefore, and as a mark of gratitude due to the memory of our late Director, a proposition will shortly be submitted to you that the Society should, by a voluntary contribution on the part of the Members, obtain a marble bust of the deceased, to be placed in a conspicuous part of the General Meeting-room of the Society.

It also falls to your Council on this occasion, to mark by a special notice, the loss which this Society has sustained in the deaths of two others of its most eminent Members,—the learned and venerable Sir CHARLES WILKINS, and WILLIAM MARSDEN, Esq., to whom this Society, and Oriental literature in general, are so much indebted. It will not, however, be expected of your Council to enter into, or attempt to discuss, the great merits and worth of these highly distinguished Members of our Society, as memoirs of their lives, if not already, will no doubt soon be before the public, and as characters of so much literary eminence cannot fail to command the attention of the future biographer and historian. It may, however, be allowed here to mention that it was the gracious intention of His Majesty, as signified through the President, to confer the same mark of distinction on Mr. Colebrooke as on Sir Charles Wilkins, but that the extreme ill-health of the former prevented his availing himself of this gracious intention of the illustrious and Royal Patron of the Society.

In addition to the gifted individuals above-mentioned, the Society has sustained a heavy loss in the deaths of the following Members :—Lord Viscount Kingsborough ; Lieut.-General Colin Macauley ; Major-General William Macleod ; Lieut.-Colonel Thomas David Steuart ; John Brenton ; John Davidson ; Robert Thomas Glynn ; David Haliburton ; Jerome W. Knapp ; James Mill ; Alexander Pearson ; David Shea ; George Smith ; John Penford Thomas, Esquires ; and, but a very few days ago, in that of another Member,—Sir Whitelaw Ainslie, whose valuable "*Materia Indica*" has introduced to Europe a knowledge of the various articles used by the natives of the East, in their medicine, arts, and agriculture.

It would be a pleasing duty to your Council to advert to each individual character of the long list of names which has been read, but the limits of this Report admit only of a few brief remarks.

To Lord KINGSBOROUGH, the munificent patron of the arts, and generous contributor to all literary and scientific institutions, the Society is indebted for the copy it possesses of the splendid edition of the *Antiquities of Mexico*, published by his Lordship ; a work which is at once a specimen of graphic skill and elaborate decoration. We are also indebted to Lord Kingsborough for several other valuable donations, among which may be mentioned the original MS. copy of Amiot's *Mandehou Dictionary*.

Mr. SHEA is well known by his translation of an interesting portion of Mirkhond's *History of Persia*. He had nearly completed a translation of the *Dabistan*, an account of the various religious and philosophical sects that have prevailed in the world, when death put a stop to the further labours of this valuable Member of our Society. He had been induced to undertake this work at the request of the Oriental Translation Committee ; and it will be gratifying to the friends of Mr. Shea to learn, that Captain Troyer, of Paris, a gentleman well-known in this country and throughout Europe for his great acquirements in Oriental literature, has, in the most liberal manner,

undertaken to complete the translation, and to edit the work for the Committee.

Mr. Shea had never been in Asia, and he was one of the few who have acquired a complete knowledge of Oriental tongues, without having visited that quarter of the globe.

ALEXANDER PEARSON, Esq., conferred a valuable gift on a large portion of the human race, by introducing the vaccine inoculation into China. This useful, and, with regard to so exclusive a people, difficult measure, he accomplished in the year 1805; and wrote, at the same time, a pamphlet on the subject, which has been much circulated in China.

The "History of British India," has placed the name of JAMES MILL, Esq., in the list of British Historians of the first class; while his works on political economy have secured to him an equal eminence in this branch of science. The great ability displayed by Mr. Mill in his History, and the investigations made by him into the political condition of India, recommended him to the notice of the Court of Directors of the Hon. the East India Company, in whose employ he long held one of the most distinguished situations.

Your Council would now turn to a more pleasing part of its duty. It is happy to congratulate the Members on the increased number of elections since the last Anniversary, which exceeds the usual average of former years; and comprises, in the class of contributing Members, nineteen Resident, and twenty-one Non-Resident. One Honorary, and five Corresponding Members, have also been elected during the same period.

The additional Honorary Member is His Highness the IMÁM OF MUSCAT. On the arrival in this country of Captain Cogan, of the Indian Navy, in command of the *Liverpool* man-of-war, a present from the Imám of Muscat to the King of England, the Council took occasion to recommend to the Society to elect His Highness an Honorary Member, in token of its approbation of the encouragement given by His Highness to the Arts and Sciences amongst his people, particularly to those of ship-building and navigation; and as manifesting its high sense of his desire to open a direct intercourse between his country and Great Britain; and of the friendly feeling he has on all occasions exhibited towards the subjects, Asiatic as well as European, of the British empire.

Of the Non-Resident Members elected last year, seventeen are native gentlemen of Bombay, one of Madras, and one of Bengal. Thirteen of the former are Justices of the Peace at the Presidency to which they belong. To the kindly feelings of Sir CHARLES FORBES, we are indebted for the introduction to the Society of sixteen of the gentlemen of Bombay; and this accession to our numbers must in every point of view be a matter of congratulation. Your Council would hope, likewise, as our proceedings become generally and better known among the more enlightened of our

fellow-subjects in the East, that many others, from all the Presidencies, will be anxious to join the Society, and to co-operate with us in the attainment of its objects.

The Report of the AUDITORS on the state of the Finances of the Society will shortly be submitted to you.

While adverting to the subject of Finance, your Council has much satisfaction in noticing the very handsome donation of 100*l.* to the funds of the Society from Major-General Sir HENRY WORSLEY; and likewise to a further proof of his liberality, in having increased his subscription, which, as an original Member, was only two guineas, to three guineas per annum.

It is with much regret that your Council alludes to the entire failure of the hopes which it has for some years past cherished, of obtaining, from his Majesty's Government, the accommodation of the rooms formerly occupied by the Royal Academy in Somerset House, or that of some other public building. The results of the several deputations to Ministers to urge on them the expediency of such a grant, and the replies to the memorials presented, setting forth the claims of the Society, have been too often brought to your notice to render a recapitulation of them necessary. The first was in the year 1833, during Lord ALTHORP's administration, when, as is recorded on the minutes of your Council, the deputation was told by his lordship, that it was his lordship's individual opinion, that if the use of the rooms then occupied by the Royal Academy were to be granted to any Society, the Royal Asiatic Society should have the preference. The replies to subsequent applications in no way controverted this ground of hope; but it has within these few weeks come to the knowledge of the Council, that the rooms have been otherwise appropriated.

Your Council would willingly have waived any reference to this subject, did it not feel that its duty to the Society obliges it to make this statement, in order to dissipate from the minds of the Members this long-cherished hope; and, though it cannot be supposed that any such disappointment will for a moment slacken our endeavours to promote the usefulness of this Society, as regards the welfare of our fellow-subjects in Asia, or as regards the people of this country, in being the medium of communicating to them that knowledge of the former—their Arts, Sciences, Manufactures, and Commerce; of the valuable natural productions and vast resources of our widely-extended empire in the East, of which daily experience is now proving the great and increasing worth; still it is necessary to know that we must, in this also, as in all other branches of the objects of this Society, look to our own strength, and to the combination of our private exertions only.

Your Council is happy to announce that the Committee of Agriculture and Commerce has commenced its operations, and that its first day's proceedings have been printed and circulated, a few copies of which are now on the table. In the choice which the Committee has made of a Chairman, your Council feels assured that it has secured to itself a guide whose active exertions and great experience will be the best guarantee of its prosperity.

It will not be necessary here to allude to the various topics which have engaged the attention of the Committee of Correspondence since the last Anniversary, as the Right Honorable the Chairman of that Committee will doubtless furnish an ample explanation of them, and of their interest and importance, in his Report.

It is with much satisfaction that the Council adverts to the proceedings of the Committee of the Oriental Translation Fund, and to the munificent support which that institution continues to receive, evincing that the cultivation of an acquaintance with the learning of the East, is looked upon as an important object by the patrons of literature, both in this country and on the Continent.

The following works have been recently published by the Committee:—

1. The first volume of the great Bibliographical Dictionary of Haji Khalfa; edited and translated into Latin by Professor Flügel.
2. The concluding parts of the Travels of Macarius; translated from the Arabic, by Francis C. Belfour, Esq.
3. The second part of the History of the Afghans; translated from the Persian, by Dr. B. Dorn.
4. The first part of the Arabian Chronicle of Tabari; a work of much authority in matters relating to the early history of the Mohammedans; translated into French by M. Dubeux.
5. The second and concluding volume of the Harivansa; a mythological work of the Hindus; translated into French from the Sanskrit, by M. Langlois.
6. The second and concluding volume of the Chronicles of Rabbi Joseph; translated from the Hebrew by Dr. Bialloblotzky.
7. The History of the Temple of Jerusalem; translated from the Arabic by the Rev. James Reynolds.
8. The poem of Laili and Majnún; translated from the Persian of Nizámi, by James Atkinson, Esq.

Several valuable works are now in the course of printing under the auspices of the Committee; while the translation of many others is in a state of considerable forwardness. Among the former may be mentioned the following:—

1. The Vishnu Purana, one of the Puranas of the Vaishnava order, containing copious details relating to the doctrines and rites of the votaries of Vishnu; with a genealogy of Hindu Kings, and the Life of Krishna; translated from the Sanskrit, by Professor Wilson.
2. The text of the Sankhya Karika; a compendious view of the Sankhya system of Philosophy; with Colebrooke's translation, accompanied by notes, illustrations, &c., by Professor Wilson.
3. Makrizi's History of Egypt, commencing with the fall of Saladin; translated into French by M. Quatremere.
4. The first book of the Rigveda Sanhita, a collection of ancient Sanskrit Hymns; edited and translated into Latin by Professor Rosen.

The numerous donations to the Library and Museum since the last Anniversary have been already notified in the proceedings of the Society. It will, therefore, be necessary to particularize only one or two of those, which, by their importance or rarity, call for especial remark.

The additional Sanskrit MSS. and printed Tibetan books, presented by Mr. B. H. HONGSON since the last Anniversary, complete a body of original Buddhist literature, certainly unique in Europe. The yet obscure system of philosophy by which so many millions of inhabitants of the East are directed, and which may, perhaps, boast of a greater number of followers than any other existing system in the world, may now be illustrated from the original sources, and its principles accurately developed. Testimonies of the importance of these works have been given by continental authors. The philologist also will be gratified by the large accession of materials derived from the number of Tibetan texts now placed at his disposal.

To J. C. WHISH, Esq., the Library is indebted for a large collection of works, chiefly in Sanskrit, but in the Malayalma character, written on palm-leaves, and principally comprising the Vêdas, and other religious and philosophical works of the Hindus. This large collection was made by his late brother, C. M. Whish, Esq., of the Madras Civil Service, during a course of many years that he was resident on the Western coast of the Southern Peninsula of India.

JOHN ROMER, Esq., is the donor of several curious Manuscripts, some of which are of great rarity; we may specify a poetical version in Arabic of the Kalila va Dimna, and the Marzaban Nameh in Persian, purporting to be written in A.D. 983.

The two numbers of the Society's Journal which have been published since the last Anniversary, are now on the table. A reference to their contents will evince the interest taken by men of eminence in literature in all matters relating to the East.

Among the Papers in these Journals, we may notice the Sketch of the Kingdom of Pandya, by Professor WILSON; and notices of some ancient Hindû Coins in the Museum of the Society, by the same gentleman.

RAM RAZ's Paper on the proposed introduction of Trial by Jury into India, is a gratifying proof of the satisfaction given to the natives by the ameliorations gradually introduced amongst them by our governments; and an evidence of the sound views entertained by them on their social and political rights.

The Council would also refer to the Papers by Mr. GUTZLAFF, on the subjects of Chinese literature and science; and would remark that, from the growing intercourse with that remote country, all additional information

respecting its inhabitants, and their modes of thinking and acting, are desiderata of the first importance.

The Council trusts that the zeal manifested by absent Members for the literary success of the Society will be an incentive to those resident in this country, to devote some portion of their leisure to communicate to it the stores of information which many of them have at their disposal.

Your Council will now conclude its Report, trusting that the foregoing, though brief, review of its proceedings during the past year, will be considered satisfactory, and evince the interest it has taken in the superintendence and guidance of the affairs of the Society.

The following Report on the Financial State of the Society was read by
RICHARD CLARKE, Esq. :—

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS, FOR 1837.

THE Auditors have the honour to lay before the Meeting an abstract of the accounts for the year 1836, and an estimate of the probable receipts and disbursements, for 1837. They have carefully examined the accounts and vouchers from which the abstract is prepared, and have found them satisfactory and correct in every respect.

The amount received by the Treasurer in the course of the year (*Vide* Statement, No. I., p. xxvi,) is 1418*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*, and the balance brought on from the preceding year was 402*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*, making together a total of 1820*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* It must be observed, however, that of this total, a portion, to the amount of 85*l.* 1*s.*, consists of payments made by the Members of the Committee of Agriculture and Commerce, which form no part of the funds appropriable to the general objects of this Society. The Treasurer has kindly undertaken to transfer this item to a new head of account, which he will open for the money of the newly-formed Committee. If the last-mentioned sum be deducted from the total shown in the abstract, the real amount of receipts will be 1735*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*

The total expenditure is shown to be 1310*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*, and the balance in favour of the Society 510*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*; but deducting the 85*l.* 1*s.* from the receipts, as before explained, the real balance in favour of the Society will be 425*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*

In stating this balance, the Auditors feel it to be their duty to observe that of the amount received, and expended, no less a portion than 477*l.* 15*s.* consists of compositions paid by Members in lieu of annual subscriptions. That sum, in fact, represents ten years' subscriptions of twenty-two Members, which have been expended in one year. The Auditors find that the practice of carrying the compositions paid in any year to the account of the disposable income of that year, has long prevailed. It appears to them, however, to be incorrect, as exhibiting a fallacious view of the Society's finances; and dangerous, inasmuch as the withdrawing of so many annual contributions, if the amount of the compositions be not distributed over a series of

years, may, at no distant period, produce embarrassment in fulfilling the engagements which the Society must, every year, be prepared to meet.

The estimates for 1837 (*Vide* Statement, No. II., p. xxvii.) state the probable receipts at 1244*l.* 7*s.*, to which is added the balance of cash in the Treasurer's hands, 510*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, making a total of 1754*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* The Auditors observe that 200*l.* are included in this estimate as the amount of *compositions* that may be anticipated in the course of the year; this sum they conceive, on the grounds they have before stated, ought not to stand, to its full amount, among the available assets. The admission fees and subscriptions of new Members are taken at 100*l.* and the arrears likely to be received at 90*l.*

It appears from a statement drawn up by the Secretary, and now laid on the table, that the total number of Resident and Non-resident Members is 434, of whom 181 have compounded for their subscriptions.

The sum receivable annually from the remaining Members is 677*l.* 5*s.*; but it appears from the statement that the subscriptions of fifty of the 434 are in arrear, or in abeyance.

The portion of the estimates which can be considered as certain or fixed, consists of annual subscriptions, the annual donation of the East India Company, the payment from the Oriental Translation Fund, and the dividend on stock, and amounts, in all, to 809*l.* 9*s.*; the remainder is contingent.

The estimated expenses of the current year, are stated at 1883*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* Of this amount, 484*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* are on account of the printing of *four* numbers of the Society's Journal in 1835 and 1836; it having been customary to discharge the printing-bill of one year out of the income of the following. There is also another charge of 80*l.* for a work in lithography now in progress. But it being most desirable, with a view to the best possible administration of the Society's Funds, that the whole of the outlay of the year should be defrayed within the twelvemonth, there have been included in this estimate 200*l.* as the probable expense of printing two Numbers of the Journal, being all that it is intended to issue in the present year 1837.

In addition to the foregoing estimate of what may be considered the ordinary or current expenditure of the year, the Auditors regret to observe that provision must be made to meet two very heavy drafts on the Society's Treasury; one for the discharge of a bill of 406*l.* 5*s.* due to the late Printers, and the other for necessary repairs to the house, estimated at 180*l.* 17*s.*, making together a sum little short of 600*l.*

In contrast with these extraordinary claims, the Auditors have to observe, that 300*l.* are owing to the Society by the Oriental Translation Fund; and that about 400*l.* are due on account of admission fees and subscriptions by Members of the Society. The Auditors earnestly recommend that every proper exertion be made, to get in as much as possible of these large outstanding sums, and that before the close of the present year, all the debts of the Society be paid off, and that, for that purpose, a sale of so much stock be effected as may be necessary to discharge the balance.

The Auditors would further beg leave to recommend that, in future, the estimates be prepared in two parts;—the first part exhibiting the fixed and ascertained income, against which should be charged the certain and

unavoidable expenses of the year. The second part should exhibit all contingent and uncertain receipts, against which should be charged, first the supply of any deficiency in the fixed receipts as compared with the certain expenditure. The remainder of the contingent estimate would be the sum appropriable, at the discretion of the controlling authorities, to every purpose which can further the important objects for which this Institution is established.

The Auditors have to observe, that, in consequence of the lamented death of Mr. Colebrooke, the original number of three Trustees has been reduced to one; the first Trustees being Mr. Colebrooke, Dr. Noehden, and the Treasurer, Mr. James Alexander.

It only remains for the Auditors to perform the gratifying duty of bearing their testimony to the unceasing and kind attention which the Treasurer, Mr. Alexander, continues to pay to the concerns of the Society; and to express the satisfaction they have derived from the accuracy and clearness of the accounts kept by the Secretary, Captain Harkness.

(Signed)

R. CLARKE	{	Auditor on the part of the Council.
C. ELLIOTT		
S. DYER	{	Auditors on the part of the Society.

Royal Asiatic Society's House,
Grafton Street, Bond Street,
6th of May, 1837.

STATEMENT, No. I.

1836.	RECEIPTS.	£. s. d.	1836.	DISBURSEMENTS.	£. s. d.
	From 91 Annual Subscriptions, at £3 3s.	286 13 0		By House Rent	225 5 0
	96 ditto, ditto, at £2 2s.	201 12 0		Salaries and Wages	422 10 0
	13 Admission Fees, at £5 5s.	68 5 0		Imprests to the Secretary for the pay- ment of current expenses and taxes	225 0 0
	16 Compositions of Subscription, at £21 each	336 0 0		Collector's Commission	35 8 4
	3 ditto, ditto, at £31 10s.	94 10 0		Expense on Nos. I. and II. of the Society's Journal and Sundry Printing	208 12 8
	3 ditto, ditto, at £15 15s.	47 5 0		Circulars and Bookbinding	79 19 3
	Arrears of Subscriptions received .	14 14 0		Books, Stationery, and Periodicals .	36 18 8
	Annual Donation from the Hon. the East India Company	105 0 0		Coal-merchant's and Glazier's Bills .	29 16 0
	Transactions, &c., sold	21 3 7		Diplomas to Honorary Members . .	21 7 6
	Donation from Sir Henry Worsley .	100 0 0		Freight, Shipping Charges, &c. . . .	19 3 3
	Dividends on £1942 17s. 1d. in Three per Cent. Consols	58 5 8		Postages, and sundry Small Charges .	6 11 0
	Donations and Subscription to the Committee of Agriculture and Commerce	85 1 0		Total of Disbursements in 1836 . .	£1310 11 8
	Total of Receipts in 1836 . .	£1418 9 3		Balance of Cash in the hands of the Treasurer on the 31st Dec. 1836, applicable to the service of the year 1837	510 3 8
	Balance in the hands of the Treas- urer at the end of 1835	402 6 1			£1820 15 4

STATEMENT, No. II.

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS.		ESTIMATED DISBURSEMENTS.	
1837.	£. s. d.	1837.	£. s. d.
From 104 Annual Subscriptions, at £3 3s.	327 12 0	By Rent of House	225 5 0
101 ditto, ditto, at £2 2s.	212 2 0	Current Expenses and Taxes	200 0 0
Annual Donation of the Hon. the		Salaries and Wages	450 0 0
East India Company	105 0 0	Collector's Commission	30 0 0
Ditto from the Oriental Translation		Expenses on Nos. 3, 4, 5, and 6 of	
Fund for the year 1835	100 0 0	the Society's Journal, and sundry	
Admission Fees and Subscriptions		Printing	484 16 9
of New Members	100 16 0	Ditto on Nos. 7 and 8	200 0 0
Compositions of Subscriptions	200 0 0	Stationary, Bookbinding, Circulars, &c.	50 0 0
Recoverable Arrears, say	90 0 0	Lithographing Hindu Alphabets	80 0 0
Dividends on Stock, and Sale of		Coals and Sundries	40 0 0
Transactions, &c.	70 0 0	Cash to be refunded to the Committee	
Donations to the Committee of Agri-		of Agriculture and Commerce	123 18 0
culture and Commerce	38 17 0		
Total Receipts in 1837	£1244 7 0		
Balance of Cash in the hands of the			
Treasurer at the end of 1836	510 3 8		
	£1754 10 8		
Balance	179 9 1		
	£1833 19 9		£1833 19 9

Colonel BRIGGS moved that the thanks of the Society be given to the Auditors for their services ; and that their Report, together with that of the Council, be received, and printed in the Proceedings of the Society : seconded by Major MOORE, and carried unanimously.

The Right Hon. Sir ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, as Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence, detailed the operations of that Committee, since the last Anniversary, to the following effect :—A variety of reasons have called the attention of the British public, at the present moment, to three great divisions of Asia. The first, that which is bounded on the West by the Mediterranean and the Red Sea ; on the East by the Euphrates and the Persian Gulf ; on the North by the mountains of Armenia ; and on the South by the Arabian Sea. The second, that which extends from the Himalayan Mountains, North, to Point de Galle, South ; and from Surat, West, to Assam, and the Chinese province of Yunnan, East. The third, that which includes the whole of China in the North, and Borneo, Celebes, New Guinea, and the other Eastern Islands, as far as Torres' Straits, and the N.W. part of Australia, in the South.

As the Committee of Correspondence always direct their researches to those parts of Asia to which the circumstances of the time have particularly called the attention of the public, they have directed their inquiries during the last year, to subjects intimately connected with those three divisions of Asia ; and I shall take the liberty to explain to the Meeting the nature, as well of those circumstances, as of the inquiries made by the Committee, and the reasons I have for believing, from the present feelings of the people of Asia in favour of useful knowledge and literary distinction, that the proceedings of the Society are popular, and will be encouraged throughout that great and interesting portion of the globe.

As to the first division of Asia, there are two circumstances which have particularly called the attention of the public to it. First, the general conviction which prevails of the necessity and practicability of establishing a direct and expeditious communication between Great Britain and British India, either through the Arabian or the Persian Gulf. Second, the general belief which prevails, that the Russian Government may, in consequence of the extension of its frontiers towards the sources of the Euphrates and Tigris, attempt, in the event of a future war between England and Russia, to aim a blow at the British possessions in India through the Persian Gulf. With a view to these two circumstances, the Committee have endeavoured to acquire a thorough knowledge of the geography and topography of that division of Asia ; and have derived so much information from the Surveys of the Indian Navy, as to render it their duty, considering the debt of gratitude which the friends of science owe to this distinguished body of men, to allude shortly to the history of their military achievements ; their maritime surveys ; and diplomatic negotiations.

The inhabitants of the Western coast of the peninsula of India, from Cape Comorin, South, to Surat, North, have always, from the earliest times, owing to a variety of causes, had a great propensity to piracy. In consequence of this, the Great Mogul, as long as he exercised any authority over

that coast, kept up a navy, under the command of an Admiral called the *Sedee*, for the protection of the trade which was carried on by his subjects between India and the Persian and Arabian Gulfs. The British Government, when Bombay was ceded to Great Britain by Portugal, found it necessary to establish and keep up a navy for a similar purpose; and it expended 50,000*l.* a year upon this navy from 1710 to 1756. In the latter year the Government had, upon an occasion of great political importance to the British interests in India, a full opportunity of estimating the value of the services which might be derived from this navy, it having become necessary, in consequence of the innumerable depredations committed by the pirates, and the great extent of coast which they had acquired, to annihilate the power of the celebrated pirate Angrea, who had got complete possession of all the sea-coast, 120 miles in extent, from Tamana to Bancoot, and all the inland country, as far as the mountains, which in some places are thirty, in others twenty miles from the sea-coast. The ships and men of that navy having been employed upon that occasion, under the command of one of their own officers, Commodore James, were completely successful; destroyed the whole of Angrea's fleet; and, with the assistance of some land troops, took his celebrated fort of Severn-droog, and all his other forts; and put an end to his authority and depredations.¹ From that time to the present period, they, as well in the capture of the island of Ternate, in the Burmese war, in the expeditions against the pirates of the Persian Gulf, as in a great many other military expeditions upon which they have been employed, have shown the greatest promptitude, the strictest discipline, and the most undaunted courage. They have been equally distinguished by the zeal, and by the great practical and theoretical science, with which they have executed those maritime surveys by which they have been enabled, during the last forty years, to complete the most useful and valuable charts of different parts of the coasts of Asia, and of the coasts of the Arabian and Persian Gulfs.² During the latter part of the last century, many of the officers gained great credit by the different maritime surveys to which their names are respectively affixed. In the beginning of the present century, Captains Ross and McGowan, made a trigonometrical survey of the seas between the Straits of Malacca and the Yellow Sea. In 1819, in consequence of the benefit which had been previously derived, during the expedition against the pirates in the Persian Gulf, from the accuracy with which they had examined the different inlets and creeks in that sea, some of the officers were employed by the Bombay Government, in making the chart of the whole of the Persian Gulf, which was completed in 1828. In that year, in consequence of the desire which was evinced by the public, of having a communication between Great Britain and British India through the Arabian Gulf, Captain Elwon was employed, in the *Benares*, in surveying that Gulf, from the Strait of Babel-

¹ The building on Shooter's Hill, called Severn-droog, was erected by Commodore James, in honour of that event.

² The collection of 118 charts, published by order of the East India Company, chiefly from surveys performed by the officers of the Indian Navy, show the value of the services executed by this able body of men.

mandeb to Judda, and Captain Moresby, in the *Palinurus*, in surveying it from Judda to Akkaba and Suez : and the result of these two surveys has been published in that magnificent chart of the whole of the Arabian Gulf, of which Captain Cogan has presented a copy to the Society. In 1833, some more of the officers were ordered to survey the coast of Arabia, from the Arabian to the Persian Gulf ; and thereby connect the survey of the Eastern coast of Africa, made from the Cape of Good Hope to the Arabian Gulf, by Captain Owen, of the Royal Navy, with that of the Western coast of the peninsula of India, made from Cape Comorin to the Persian Gulf, by the officers of the Bombay Marine, and between eight and nine hundred miles of the coast of Arabia have already been surveyed by them. In the same year Lieutenant Wellsted was employed in surveying the Island of Socotra, and his chart, and his account of that island, copies of which are published in the Journal of the Geographical Society, do the highest honour to his talents and to his scientific acquirements, and afford the public a proof of the advantage which they have derived from the employment of such an officer on so important a service. Many of the officers of this navy have availed themselves of the opportunities which their profession has afforded them, of acquiring a knowledge of the customs and interests of the different native chiefs on whose coasts they have been employed. Captain Cogan has particularly distinguished himself by his knowledge of the territories and of the interests of the Imám of Muscat ; and by establishing an intimate alliance between that chief and Great Britain. He, at the request of the Imám, two years ago, brought to England the *Liverpool*, of 74 guns, as a present from the Imám to the King of Great Britain ; and, by command of His Majesty, last October, took back one of the finest of the Royal yachts as a present from His Majesty to the Imám. This officer, while he was in England, having given the Committee much useful information relative to the countries and people under the authority of the Imám of Muscat, and to the protection and encouragement afforded by the Imám to arts and sciences, the Society, on the recommendation of the Committee, nominated that chief one of its Honorary Members, and sent him, by Captain Cogan, a diploma conferring that honour upon him. The Government of Great Britain, aware of the importance of the Bombay Marine, have lately extended to that navy the provisions of the Mutiny Act ; have given the officers a fixed rank ; have placed the whole establishment under the superintendence of one of his Majesty's naval officers at Bombay ; and have changed the name of the service from that of the Bombay Marine to that of the Indian Navy. Under all these circumstances, I can have no doubt that the Society must be, as the Committee of Correspondence is, convinced that the Indian Navy is, at the present moment, not only one of the most important departments of the military and civil services in British India, but also one of the most powerful engines which can be employed by the Society for procuring information relative to Asia, and for diffusing amongst the people of that division of the globe, the arts, the sciences, and the civilization of Europe.

As to the second division of Asia, the following is the circumstance which

has principally called the attention of the public to it. The consideration, first, of the effect which the approximation of Great Britain to the British possessions in India, by opening a direct communication between Great Britain and India, through the Arabian and Persian Gulfs, is calculated to produce, as well upon the minds and feelings of the people of Great Britain with respect to India, as upon the minds and feelings of the people of India with respect to Great Britain. Secondly, of the effect which the establishment and colonization of a great body of Englishmen in India is calculated to produce upon the moral and political feelings of the people of India. Third, of the effect which raising the people of India to the moral and political situation of the people of Great Britain is calculated to produce, upon the authority of Great Britain in India. And, fourthly, of the effect which the measures which must, sooner or later, be adopted by the British legislature for rendering Great Britain independent of foreign countries for cotton and silk, by getting those articles from British India, are calculated to produce upon the interests of Great Britain and India. With a view to this circumstance, the Committee of Correspondence have taken steps for obtaining accurate information, from genuine Hindu sources, relative to the general history, laws, moral principles, arts and sciences of the Hindus of India; for establishing Literary Societies amongst the Hindus, for completing, through them, with the assistance of the local governments, such parts of the Mackenzie Collection as are still incomplete;³ for procuring from the East India Records⁴ in this country all such Reports as can throw light upon the ancient laws, usages, and customs, which, at the time each province was annexed to Great Britain, prevailed amongst the Hindus of that province; for ascertaining the genuine opinions⁵ of the Hindus upon all ques-

³ Lord Auckland has, recently, it is understood, in consequence of the suggestions offered to him by the Committee before his departure from this country, taken the subject into his consideration, and appointed Mr. Taylor, who has lately published some of the papers relative to Madura collected by the late Colonel Mackenzie, to assist the Hindú Literary Society at Madras, in arranging such of the papers of the Mackenzie collection as are now at Madras.

⁴ Sir Alexander Johnston has, at different times, read most of these Reports, and is, therefore, fully aware of the very valuable information which they contain relative to the laws, customs, and usages of the Hindús. A few of them are printed in the four volumes of the Judicial and Revenue Selections, but many are still in manuscript, and are highly deserving of being published, as they do the greatest honour to the talents and zeal of those public servants by whom they are drawn up.

⁵ These opinions may be collected from the translations which have been made from Sanskrit into English of several Sanskrit works by the late Sir Charles Wilkins, the late Mr. Colebrooke, and Professor Wilson. It is advisable to make such a collection at the present moment, when the Society can have the assistance of its present Director, Professor Wilson, who is allowed to be one of the most distinguished, if not the most distinguished, Sanskrit scholar of the present day; and when it is anxious, in consequence of the recent death of those two distinguished Oriental scholars, Sir Charles Wilkins and Mr. Colebrooke, to show every respect to their memory, and to enable the British public to appreciate the real value of their acquirements, and their literary labours.

tions of religion, morals, metaphysics, laws and government; for procuring returns of the statistics* of British India from the Bengal, Madras, and Bombay Governments; for arranging such returns according to the plan adopted by the French Government in 1802; for procuring all the observations which have been made, either in favour or against the continuance of the permanent system as to lands in India;⁷ for collecting information from every part of India relative to the growth of cotton, and the propagation of the silk-worm, for the first of which articles Great Britain is at present dependent upon the United States, and for the second of which, upon France and Italy, instead of deriving both, as it is believed she may do, from British India, and thereby circulating amongst her own subjects, in her own territories, that portion of her capital which she now circulates for those articles amongst foreigners in foreign countries; for enabling the people of Great Britain to become acquainted with the process⁸ observed by the people of India in the manufacture of steel, on which subject a very able paper was lately, on the suggestion of the Committee, read before the Society by Mr. Wilkinson; for promoting the establishment of a Committee of Agriculture,⁹

* The Committee have already obtained much valuable information upon the statistics of British India from the Bengal and Madras Governments; and are daily expecting to receive more from the Bombay Government, in answer to the queries which were drawn up by Mr. M'Culloch, at the request of Sir Alexander Johnston, and sent out by him to the Governors of those Presidencies.

⁷ It is of great importance to those Europeans who may wish to acquire lands in British India, to be acquainted with the nature of the different tenures upon which lands are held in that country, particularly with the nature of the permanent settlement, about which so much difference of opinion has prevailed for many years.

⁸ As it is extremely useful for the manufacturers of Great Britain to have a detailed account published of the different processes observed by the natives of every part of Asia in their different manufactories, Sir Alexander Johnston is endeavouring to procure such accounts from every part of India: Mr. Lord lately sent him some particulars relative to the cutting and polishing of agate, cornelians, &c., which was published in the third Volume of the Society's Journal; and Mr. Wilkinson lately prepared for him the paper which is above alluded to, upon the manufacture of steel. It appears, by some papers collected by Sir Alexander Johnston, that his uncle, the late Hon. Colonel George Napier, when in the Ordnance, inquired very particularly into the manufacture of gunpowder in different parts of Asia; and ascertained that the proportions of charcoal, sulphur, and saltpetre, used in China, from the most ancient periods, in the manufacture of gunpowder, are the same as are used in this country, to produce the strongest and best gunpowder.

⁹ With a view of acquiring a knowledge of the agriculture and statistics of British India, the Committee of Correspondence, on the suggestion of Mr. Holt Mackenzie and Dr. Royle, some time ago recommended to the Council the formation of an Agricultural Committee, composed of the Members of this Society. Sir A. Johnston having himself at the same time communicated with the Members for Glasgow and Liverpool, and with some of the leading men of Manchester, upon the subject, and having found from them that they all agreed as to the utility of such a Committee; and one having been recently formed, it is only necessary to state that the Chairman of that Committee is Sir Charles Forbes, and that the two

composed of Members of the Society; and for reviving at Madura, subject to such alterations as change of circumstances and the progress in arts, science, and literature may require, the ancient Hindu College,¹⁰ which is supposed to have had so great an influence upon the education and character of the Hindus in the Southern peninsula of India, from the third to the tenth century of the Christian era.

As to the third division of Asia, the following are the circumstances which have principally called the attention of the public to it. The first, that of the frontiers of the British possessions in India having been recently extended, partly by conquest, partly by acquisitions obtained by treaties, to the neighbourhood of the province of Yunnan, the Eastern province of China. The second, that of the discovery which has recently been made, that the tea-plant is growing in a tract of country extending 300 miles within the British territories. The third, that of British traders having been enabled, in consequence of the opening of the trade with China to all British subjects, to visit parts of that Empire which were never visited before by British subjects, and to become better acquainted than they formerly were with the produce of the different islands in the Eastern Archipelago, and with the various wants of their inhabitants. With a view to these circumstances, the Committee have taken measures for procuring all the valuable information which is preserved in the Archives of the Jesuits¹¹ at Naples, Rome,

leading Members of the Committee are Mr. Holt Mackenzie and Dr. Royle, in order to convince the public of its efficiency, and of the advantages which Great Britain and India are likely to derive from its establishment.

¹⁰ In consequence of the influence which was exercised by this College for seven centuries over the Hindus in the Southern Peninsula of India, the celebrated Jesuit Missionary, Robertus di Nobilibus, who resided at Madura in the 17th century, and the equally celebrated Jesuit Missionary Beschi, who resided at Trichinopoly in the 18th century, both formed plans for reviving it; but, owing to the dissensions in their order, were unable to carry them into effect. The father of Sir Alexander Johnston, and the late Colonel Mackenzie, who resided at Madura in 1783, having procured an account of the ancient College, and copies of the plans of Robertus di Nobilibus and Beschi, in that year formed a plan of their own for the revival of this College; and Colonel Mackenzie, who was an officer of the Engineers, and who was then superintending the building of the house for Mr. Johnston, which is known at Madura by the name of Johnston House, and which is now the property of Sir Alexander Johnston, at the request of Mr. Johnston, laid out this house in such a manner as to enable Mr. Johnston, whenever an opportunity might offer, to convert it into the Hindu College which he had planned. No such opportunity, however, occurred during the lives of Colonel Mackenzie and Mr. Johnston; but as the house is still the property of Sir Alexander Johnston, he has offered to make over all right which he has to it, according to the original plan of his father, to any individual or society who may agree to carry that plan into effect; and he is now in communication with a Society abroad, who have the intention of sending out to Madura six men eminently distinguished in different branches of science, for the purpose of establishing themselves at Madura, and educating the Hindus of that part of India, and circulating amongst them the arts and sciences of Europe.

¹¹ Sangermano, in his "Description of the Burmese Empire," translated by Dr. Tandy, and published by the Oriental Translation Fund, shows the value and the

Genoa, Venice, Paris, Madrid, and Lisbon, respecting Upper and Lower Assam, Munipore, Borg, the North-East parts of the Burmese Empire, Laos, Cambodia, Cochin-China, and all the Eastern provinces of China; for calling the attention of the British public to the moral, political, and commercial importance of the Anglo-Chinese College,¹² established at Malacca by the late Dr. Morrison, and so liberally supported by Sir George Staunton; for encouraging the Rev. Mr. Gutzlaff¹³ to proceed in his very interesting inquiries relative to the history, literature and science of China, to the practice of medicine in that country, and to the different idioms which are spoken by the people of Japan¹⁴ who inhabit the coasts of that Empire; for acquiring a knowledge of the Island of Quelpert,¹⁵ which, from its local situ-

extent of the information which the Jesuit Missionaries acquired of each of the countries in Asia in which they resided. The *Annales des Propaganda* also show that the Catholic Missionaries who are at present in different parts of Asia, are not less active than their predecessors were in obtaining useful information relative to that part of the world.

¹² In No. 1050 of the *Literary Gazette*, there is a very interesting account of a young Chinese gentleman who was educated at that College, and who is believed to have had considerable influence, by the knowledge he obtained at that College, in altering the opinions of the Chinese Government with respect to the trade of their country with foreign nations.

¹³ This enlightened and zealous Protestant missionary is indefatigable in his endeavours to acquire a thorough knowledge of China and its inhabitants, as appears from his analysis of the *Yih-She*, published in the third, and his paper on the Practice of Medicine by the Chinese, published in the fourth Volume of the Society's Journal; and to circulate amongst them a knowledge of the history, literature, arts and sciences of Great Britain, as appears by his translation into Chinese of an abridgment of the *History of England*; and his *Geographical and Astronomical tracts* printed in that language, at Canton, with portraits, maps, and diagrams. Sir Alexander Johnston, having submitted his paper on the Practice of Medicine by the Chinese to Sir Henry Hallford, who, notwithstanding his extensive practice, devotes much of his attention to inquiries in every part of the world, connected with the knowledge of his profession, has forwarded from him to the Rev. Mr. Gutzlaff, a set of queries, which are calculated to elicit from the Chinese medical men, such further information as may be interesting to the medical men of this country.

¹⁴ He has recently sent to Sir Alexander Johnston, a vocabulary of the idioms of the language spoken by the Japanese who inhabit the coasts of Japan, which he compiled from the information he received from four Japan mariners, who, after having been wrecked in the Chinese Seas, were brought to Macao, and resided with him at that place for some time.

¹⁵ It is believed that the Government of the United States are fully aware of the commercial importance of the local situation of this island. The plan which they, and the Government of France have adopted, of sending their ships of war on frequent cruises through the Eastern Archipelago and the Chinese Seas for the purpose of making the inhabitants of these seas aware of their maritime power, and for that of acquiring local information respecting all the islands in those seas, and all the coasts of China bordering on them, has enabled those two governments, particularly the former, to acquire such a knowledge of these seas as may be of the greatest importance to them in a political and commercial point of view.

ation, is of as much importance to those who wish to carry on a trade with Japan and Corea, as the Island of Singapore is to those who wish to carry on a trade with Siam and Cochin-China, on the one side, and all the islands of the Eastern Archipelago on the other; for having translations¹⁶ made from the Dutch into English of all the papers in the Dutch records of Ceylon, Cochin, Negapatnam, and Malacca, which throw any light upon the history of the islands in the Eastern Archipelago, and upon the trade which was, and is still, carried on between the Dutch settlements and those islands; and for obtaining from Mr. Earl,¹⁷ a gentleman whose observations as to these islands, and the policy which the British Government ought to observe with respect to their inhabitants, are of so much value, the information which he collected during the recent voyages which he made to Borneo, and many of the islands in the Eastern Archipelago.

The following circumstances show that various descriptions of persons in Egypt, Arabia, India, Malacca, and China, are anxious to acquire literary fame themselves; to respect those who have distinguished themselves by their scientific discoveries; to promote the improvement of the condition of their fellow-creatures, and to co-operate with the Society in the attainment of the objects which they have in view.

In Egypt, the Pasha¹⁸ of that country, who is an Honorary Member of this Society, by the attention with which he receives any Members of the Society who may visit his country; in Arabia, the Arabs who inhabit both banks of the Euphrates,¹⁹ by their conduct towards Colonel Chesney, and the expedition under his command; the inhabitants of Bagdad, by the reception which they gave the steam-boat, the *Euphrates*, when it came up the Tigris to that place; and the Imam of Muscat, by the policy which he has pursued in sending the *Liverpool*, one of his 74-gun ships, as a present to

¹⁶ Sir Alexander Johnston, while President of His Majesty's Council in Ceylon, had most of these documents, and most of the Dutch works upon the same subject, translated from the Dutch into the English language for his own information; and he is at present collecting them in order that he may present them to the Society.

¹⁷ This gentleman, some time ago, wrote, at the request of Sir Alexander Johnston, the papers relative to Borneo which have been published in the Society's Journal; and it is to be hoped that he will be employed in some situation in which he will have an opportunity of carrying on, with facility, those researches respecting the islands in the Eastern Archipelago, and the utility of establishing an English Colony on the Northern part of Australasia, for which he is so peculiarly well calculated, by his acquirements, his character, and his zeal.

¹⁸ Captain Mackenzie, a very intelligent corresponding member of the Society, who recently came through Egypt from Calcutta to England, had an interview while at Alexandria with the Pasha, and was received by him with the greatest attention.

¹⁹ It is understood that the inhabitants of Bombay have determined to erect a monument at Alla, the place near that part of the Euphrates where the steam boat, the *Tigris*, was upset, to the memory of the officers and men who were lost on that occasion; and that the inhabitants of Alla, so far from being averse to this measure, are ready to assist in erecting the monument.

the King of England, by Captain Cogan, an officer of the Indian Navy, evince the feelings which they respectively entertain in favour of the improvement of the condition of their countrymen. At Bombay, the resolution which the nephew of that distinguished scholar, the late Mulla Firoz, has adopted, to publish, by subscription, with the aid of the Society, a translation into English of his uncle's work, called the *George Nameh*, on the discovery of India by Europeans; the application which Manockjee Cursetjee, and sixteen of the most distinguished *Parsis*, thirteen of whom are Justices of the Peace, made some time ago, through their friend, Sir Charles Forbes, to be elected Members of this Society, show the value which the natives of the the highest respectability at Bombay attach at present to literary distinction, and the honour of becoming Members of this Society.⁵⁰ At Calcutta, the improved system of education which has been introduced amongst the natives; the number of useful works on science and literature which have been translated from the English into different Oriental languages; the variety of newspapers, in English and in the native languages,⁵¹ which

⁵⁰ The circumstances which led to the first extension by Act of Parliament to the natives of British India of the right of sitting upon Juries, and of being appointed Justices of the Peace, have made the natives of the highest distinction at Bombay anxious to have the honour of holding this responsible office. Sir Alexander Johnston, in 1810, when President of His Majesty's Council in Ceylon, conceiving that the surest way of improving the education, and raising the character and the situation of the natives of India, was by giving them an ample share in the government of their country, obtained for the natives of Ceylon a charter, under the great seal of England, imparting to them trial by jury, the right of being appointed Justices of the Peace, and all the other most important rights of British-born subjects. Mr. Wynn, in 1826, then President of the Board of Control, thinking, from the moral and political effect which had been produced on the people of Ceylon by this measure, that it would be advisable to adopt a similar measure with respect to the natives of British India, introduced the Act by which the right of sitting upon Juries was extended to the natives of Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta; and Lord Glenelg, Mr. Wynn's successor, subsequently, upon the petition of the natives of Bombay, also extended to the natives of those three places the right of being appointed Justices of the Peace. This right is highly valued, as none but those natives who are the most distinguished by their character and their talents are appointed to the situation.

⁵¹ The following is a list of Indian Newspapers and Periodicals, made out in the year 1836:—

CALCUTTA.		When Published.
Bengal Hurkaru, and Chronicle	. . . . .	Daily.
Calcutta Courier	. . . . .	Ditto.
Englishman and Military Chronicle	. . . . .	Ditto.
India Gazette and Chronicle	. . . . .	Thrice a Week.
Government Gazette (Official)	. . . . .	Twice a Week.
Bengal Herald, Literary Gazette, and Reformer	. . . . .	Weekly.
Oriental Observer and Literary Chronicle, with the Military Gazette	. . . . .	Ditto.
Scots' Gazette	. . . . .	Ditto.
The Gyaunaeshun (Native Paper)	. . . . .	Ditto.

are circulated through the country ; and the frequent public meetings, and public discussions, which take place upon subjects of great public interest, have gradually weakened the prejudices which prevail amongst the natives against coming to Europe ; and must ultimately induce them to follow

CALCUTTA—(Continued.)		When Published.
Various Native Papers		Uncertain.
Commercial Price Current		Weekly.
Calcutta Exchange Price Current		Ditto.
Sporting Magazine		Monthly.
East India United Service Journal		Ditto.
Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal		Ditto.
Calcutta Christian Observer		Ditto.
Calcutta Monthly Journal		Ditto.
Bengal Directory and Annual Register		Yearly.
Bengal Annual, &c.		Ditto.
SERAMPORE.		
Friend of India		Weekly.
Sumachar Durpun (Bengali and English)		Ditto.
MOFUSSIL.		
Meerut Observer		Weekly.
Delhi Gazette		Ditto.
Agra Ukhbar		Ditto.
Central Free Press		Ditto.
Cawnpore Omnibus		Ditto.
Cawnpore Free Press		Ditto.
Meerut Universal Magazine		Monthly.
MADRAS.		
Madras Courier		Four times a Week
Madras Male Asylum Herald		Twice a Week.
Madras Gazette		Ditto.
Government Gazette (Official)		Ditto.
Madras Times		Ditto.
Standard		Ditto.
Conservative		Ditto.
Madras Journal of Literature and Science		Monthly.
Madras Almanack		Yearly.
Madras Army List		Ditto.
BOMBAY.		
Bombay Courier		Twice a Week.
Bombay Gazette		Ditto.
Government Gazette (Official)		Weekly.
Durpun (Native Paper)		Ditto.
Oriental Christian Spectator		Monthly.
Sporting Magazine		Ditto.
SINGAPORE.		
Singapore Chronicle		Weekly.
Singapore Free Press		Ditto.
PENANG		
Prince of Wales' Island Gazette		Weekly.

the examples set them by the celebrated Brahmin the late Rammohun Roy,²² and the Mahomedan Prince Jamb-ud-din,²³ of visiting England themselves, of becoming acquainted, upon the spot, with the nature and effects of all its political institutions, acquiring the means of exercising a direct influence upon the government of British India, and thereby protecting the rights and privileges, and promoting the local interests of themselves and their countrymen. At Madras, the natives, by forming a Hindé Literary Society at that place, show the desire they feel to acquire knowledge, and to promote the researches of this Society, by inquiring into the history, religion, laws, architecture, and agriculture of their country. At Malacca, the Chinese, who have been educated at the College at that place, afford a decisive proof of the benefit which the people of China must derive from a good education, and of the influence which such an education must give them over the opinions and feelings of their countrymen, and over the moral and political changes, which, owing to the progress of knowledge, must sooner or later take place in that country. At Canton the establishment of the Ophthalmic Hospital; at Macao that of the Morrison Education Society; at both of these places the exertions of Dr. Colledge and other professional gentlemen, to afford medical and surgical relief to the Chinese; and the various European and American institutions at Canton and Macao, must gradually produce amongst the Chinese people a conviction of the practical benefits to be derived from European science and

²² Rammohun Roy, when in England, was examined by the Committee appointed by the House of Commons to take evidence relative to India, before the passing of the last Act which was made for the government of that country, and thereby had a public opportunity given him of stating his opinions as to the privileges and rights which ought to be granted to his countrymen, and as to the alterations which ought to be made in the British government of India. This circumstance alone, shows the very great protection, and the very great advantage, which must be derived by the natives of India, from having countrymen of their own, of high character and great talents, residing in this country.

²³ This prince, after visiting different parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and obtaining a knowledge of the agriculture, manufactures, and statistics of the country, has become a proprietor of East India Stock, and thereby acquired a right of exercising his influence by his vote, over the British government of India. The history of this prince's family, shows the great changes which have taken place in India within the last fifty years. Hyder Ali, the grandfather of the prince, was once so powerful a chief, that in the years 1781 and 1782 some of his troops were so near Madras, as to render it unsafe to reside in any of the garden-houses near Fort St. George, and Lord Macartney, the then Governor, and his private Secretary, the present Sir George Staunton's father, derived great credit from being able to get him to conclude, in 1783, that treaty, in allusion to which, the portrait of Lord Macartney, and Sir George's father, now in the present Sir George Staunton's possession, was painted. Scarcely twenty years afterwards, the British army succeeded in annihilating altogether, under his son Tipoo, Hyder's dynasty, and Prince Jamb-ud-din, the son of Tipoo, and a pensioner of the British Government, is now in England, and qualified to exercise, as a Proprietor of East India Stock, a greater influence over the British government in India, than his grandfather, in the plenitude of his power, had ever exercised.

European acquirements. The liberal and enlightened conduct of the foreign merchants at Canton and Macao, as well of those who are subjects of the United States, as of those who are subjects of all the different sovereigns of Europe, in unanimously resolving to subscribe a large sum of money, for erecting a monument in honour of the memory of the late Captain Horsburgh, shows the estimation in which they hold scientific acquirements. The resolutions which were passed by them on the occasion, whether we consider the person to whose memory they relate; the persons by whose co-operation they were passed; the place at which they were passed; the nature of the monument, and the situation in which it is to be placed, must afford the highest encouragement to scientific pursuits, by holding out the highest honours to those who succeed in them. The person to whom the honour is paid, is one who left his home in Fifeshire as a cabin-boy, who, having been employed as a sea-faring man in the Indian seas, was wrecked between Batavia and Ceylon, on the Island of Diego-Garcia; and was, in consequence of this misfortune, first led to make those valuable observations, and to collect those valuable materials, from which, with the assistance of Sir Charles Forbes, and his other friends, he afterwards published that magnificent collection of charts, which is known by the name of the *Indian Pilot*. The persons by whose unanimous co-operation the resolutions are passed, are merchants of almost all the nations of Europe, America and Asia. The place at which they were passed, is Canton, which, though 18,000 miles from the spot where he died, is a place at which all the foreign merchants are the most capable of appreciating the value of his labours, from having become fully aware, during their voyage from their own country to that place, of the perils from which they had been saved by the accuracy of his charts and his observations. The monument which is to be erected is the most appropriate one that could have been erected to his memory, as it is to consist of a series of light-houses, which are calculated to afford to navigators the same protection by night, which his charts and observations afford them by day. The situation in which these light-houses are to be erected, is at one of the great entrances through which ships pass from the Pacific into the Chinese seas; and is calculated, both from the number of ships which are likely to pass through that entrance, and from the great moral and political changes which are likely to be brought about amongst the inhabitants of the empire of China, and amongst those of all the Eastern islands, by the European establishments in Australasia, to secure for Horsburgh's memory, for many ages yet to come, the respect and gratitude of the inhabitants of every maritime nation of Europe, Asia, and America.

Sir RALPH RICE said, that in rising to propose a vote of thanks to the Right Hon. Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence, for his very able Report, he only regretted that the pleasing office had not been entrusted to a person more able to do justice to it. He felt convinced, that, after the very eloquent and comprehensive address which had just been delivered, there would not be found one dissentient voice. It was, indeed, delightful, to find a gentleman, after having retired from the duties of a laborious pro-

session, devoting his valuable leisure to subjects intimately connected with the general history of India, and affording, by such an employment of his time, so much information and gratification to those with whom he came in contact. When it was recollected what a vast range of information the Right Hon. Gentleman had displayed for so many years in his annual addresses, the extraordinary skill which he had shown in the arrangement of his interesting facts, as well as the valuable suggestions which he had made for the benefit of the Society, it appeared a matter of doubt whether more praise was due to him for what had been done, the *actum*, or for what was afterwards to be undertaken, the *agendum*. He would not detain the Meeting by entering into any remarks on the subjects which had been just now touched on in so masterly a manner, but would simply propose—"That the thanks of the Society are due, and hereby given, to the Right Hon. Sir ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, the Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence, for his Report, and that he be requested to reduce his observations to writing, in order that they may be printed in the Society's Journal."

GENERAL BOARDMAN seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Sir A. JOHNSTON expressed his satisfaction at receiving a vote of thanks for his services, from persons so well calculated to decide on their utility.

COLONEL GALLOWAY moved a vote of thanks to the Council for their services during the past year. He regretted that he was but little able to do justice to the resolution, but whoever looked at the ability and zeal requisite to effect the objects which had this day been brought before the Meeting, must admit that the Council not only deserved the thanks of the Society, but of all mankind.

MAJOR CHASE seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Right Hon. the PRESIDENT then rose, and said that they had now come to that point in their proceedings, where he usually made such observations as occurred to him on the general state of the Society, and the proceedings of the past year. He must be permitted to express first, the lively satisfaction which he felt in witnessing so numerous an attendance of members. When he saw that sufficiency of seats could scarcely be found for the gentlemen who were anxious to witness the proceedings of the Anniversary Meeting, he could not but suppose that the Society was exciting an increased interest. It had been truly remarked, that the Society had been instituted on broad and extensive principles, analogous to those commercial principles which the liberality and extended views of modern times had generated and sanctioned. Formerly it was declared, that we must consider that trade the best, where the greatest quantity of commodities was exported from this country, and the least imported. We then considered our interests as promoted by the depression of commercial rivals. Juster principles had since been adopted and acted upon. We are

now sensible, from experience, that no part of the world can improve or become prosperous, without extending an increase of wealth and prosperity to Great Britain. That none can suffer commercial reverses which shall not also be felt by our merchants and manufacturers. This principle particularly applied to our intercourse with India. Superior skill and superior science had enabled our manufactures to supersede those of India, not only in the markets of Europe, but in those of India herself; but the demand for them must be crippled and limited, if we did not find articles which we could advantageously import from India in return. If, then, we looked only to the local and limited interests of this island, we should best consult them by promoting the industry, the welfare, and manufactures of India. But he would be sorry to suppose, in looking at this great country, that she could be induced to act on such narrow and exclusive views, and not regard the happiness and prosperity of eighty millions of her distant subjects to be of far more value than any temporary advantages which might accrue to herself from any system she might deem fit to pursue. In her connexion with India, the Mother Country had every desire to act on a system of reciprocal advantage, and was most anxious, that, in return for what she received, she might contribute to ameliorate the state of civilization in that country. The Asiatic Society had the same object in view, and for that purpose had directed its attention to several subjects relating to India. First to the literature of the East, which had been particularly committed to the care of the Oriental Translation Committee, which had taken its origin from the Asiatic Society. The labours of that branch had been of vast importance, and more had been effected in the last ten years through its instrumentality, than had been altogether performed in any antecedent period. A second object of the Society's attention was the History of India. It would be perceived from the Society's Journal and Transactions how much had been effected in that department. Thirdly, the arts, manufactures, and produce of India, as well as the degree of improvement they were capable of. For the purpose of this investigation, the Committee of Agriculture and Commerce had lately been appointed, and from the commencement they had already made, from the experience, the zeal, and qualifications of the Chairman (Sir Charles Forbes), as well as of the other members whom they had selected, he trusted that results the most satisfactory might be anticipated. These were the principal objects of the Society with a view to ameliorate the condition of the inhabitants of India; and he felt pride in saying that their labours were productive of much good. When he had the honour of addressing the Meeting last year, he had mentioned the great uneasiness which had been expressed at the suspension of the printing of Oriental works at Calcutta at the expense of Government. The expense which was incurred was trifling, when compared with the magnitude of the objects which were held in view. The Society had taken some pains to demonstrate the impolicy of this suspension, and had effected so much, that permission was granted that the works in progress should be completed, and should go before the public in a perfect form. Whether the printing should continue to be altogether suspended, rested with the

Governor-General of India, as the authorities at home would wait for his answer before they decided. This suspension of Oriental studies in India was of great importance. Without cultivating the native tongues, we could not arrive at an accurate and useful knowledge of the manners, habits and customs of the people. The Government were most anxious to urge the introduction of the English language, as well as our improved civilization, amongst the natives. But experience had proved that this could be best effected by paying respect to their languages and national feelings. He trusted that the encouragement given to the study of the Oriental tongues, might not be withdrawn, but that the enlightened policy of former times might be continued. The expediency of this course was deeply felt by Sir C. Wilkins, who was the first among Europeans that successfully studied the Sanskrit language, and whose translations of the Bhagavat Gita and Hitopadesa were the first fruits of his success, and to whom the world is indebted for originating the translation of the *Laws of Menu*, a work afterwards completed by Sir W. Jones. It was to be hoped that the Government would see the impolicy of stopping the printing of those works, which, in the opinion of sound judges, served to draw closer the ties which connected the two countries. The Right Hon. the Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence, in his admirable address, had expressed some fears as to the hostile intentions of Russia. No doubt, many persons in that country as well as others, entertained ambitious views; but when he considered the intimate union which had existed between that country and England for more than one hundred years with little interruption, he was convinced in his own mind that a greater security for continued peace was afforded by the strong mutual commercial interests which so closely connected them, than by any political alliance which could be formed. When the aberration of the Emperor Paul had for a short period interrupted the harmony which existed between the two countries, notwithstanding every opposition, the usual commerce did in fact go on, until the catastrophe took place which violently finished the Autocrat's reign, and put an end to the disunion between Russia and this country. Such were the general remarks he deemed it right to make on the objects of the Society. With respect to particular points for consideration, the state of the finances called loudly for increased exertion.

The Members should endeavour to procure new subscribers. Unless more than usual efforts were made, the necessary repairs of the house would cause them to encroach upon the fund of the Society, which was laid by for particular purposes. He would direct the attention of all the Members to this important subject, in order to stimulate them to exertion. Since last year, the Society had to deplore the loss of Mr. Colebrooke, who had always been so zealous a promoter of its interests. That distinguished gentleman had occupied the chair of the Society at its first sitting. He had recommended him (Mr. Williams Wynn) to fill the office of President of the Society. This should not be deemed a compliment to an individual, but as a mode of showing that a connexion existed between the Society and the Government, and to prove to those who were in India, that the

Government were anxious to countenance and assist any means for producing good to the inhabitants. His Royal Master, George the Fourth, approved of the suggestion, and had graciously declared himself the Patron of the Society, at the same time directing that the First Commissioner for the affairs of India should officially hold the office of Vice-Patron, and thereby supply a constant channel of communication between the Society and the Government. His present Majesty had also accepted the office of Vice-Patron when Duke of Clarence, and since his accession had not only succeeded his Royal Brother as Patron, but had distinguished the Society by a mark of his particular favour, as selecting the late Sir Charles Wilkins and Sir Graves Haughton as companions of the Guelphic Order. As the situation which Mr. Colebrooke had occupied as Director, was to be filled up, it became necessary to procure a successor. An application was made to Sir Graves Haughton, who occupied a distinguished place in Oriental literature, to fill the vacant chair. Ill-health prevented that gentleman from complying; and it was perhaps a matter of congratulation to him, as his private friend, that he had not consented. Zeal for the interests of the Society might have produced extraordinary exertion, which might prove too much for a weakly state of health; and the Society would then have to deplore the loss of another eminent individual. Application was next made to Mr. Professor Wilson, who stood conspicuous as the first Sanskrit scholar of the day, and was distinguished by holding the situation of Professor of Sanskrit at the University of Oxford. It was felt, in recommending this gentleman to the Council, that not only was he the most eligible person, from the services which might naturally be expected from him; but that a lustre would be added to the Society in every country in Europe and in the East, by possessing so distinguished a scholar amongst their Members.

The advanced hour of the day prevented his adverting to other matters of interest, yet he could not forbear lamenting the death of Mr. Marsden, whose works on Eastern subjects had been the means of greatly extending the knowledge of Eastern philology and history. In conclusion, he must again express his pleasure at the fulness of the attendance, and would recommend to the good offices of all present, the task of procuring a further addition to their numbers, as the funds of the Society stood in great need of assistance.

Sir ALEXANDER JOHNSTON rose to discharge the pleasing duty of proposing a vote of thanks to the PRESIDENT. The longer they had the pleasure of knowing him, the more reason had they for being proud of their connexion with him. If anything more than another merited their gratitude, it was the handsome manner in which he had at first joined the Society. It was then important that a person connected with the Government should countenance and support the Society. The Right Hon. Gentleman came forward at the moment when the Society required it; he was then at the head of the Board of Control, and he did not for a moment hesitate to join them. Since that period, through all its vicissitudes, he had been regularly elected to the chair, which he adorned as much by his liber-

ality of feeling, as by his zeal for literature and science. It was unnecessary to say more than to propose that the thanks of the Society be given to the Right Honourable President.

The Right Hon. HENRY ELLIS seconded the motion; which was carried *unâ voce*.

The PRESIDENT returned thanks.

THOMAS WEEDING, Esq., moved a vote of thanks to the VICE-PRESIDENTS.

SIR CHARLES FORBES seconded the motion; which was carried unanimously.

Sir A. JOHNSTON returned thanks for himself and colleagues.

Sir GEORGE STAUNTON rose to propose a vote of thanks to the TREASURER, for the zeal and attention which he always paid to the interests of the Society. As he was standing, he should take the opportunity of adverting to a subject which deserved, he thought, the attention of the Society. It was to effect a more intimate union between the Royal Asiatic Society and the Oriental Translation Fund. In their anxiety to improve the state of their finances, it might be worth while to see if a considerable saving could not be effected by such a junction. The two Societies had the same object in view, and held their meetings in the same house; and yet their measures were carried on by a double machinery. The expense, of course, was greater, by such separate proceedings, and this he thought might be considerably diminished by a connexion between the two Societies. He did not mean at that time to move any Resolutions on the subject; but he would read two Propositions which he had prepared as subjects to be considered on a future occasion:—

1. That a more intimate union of interests and of government, between the Royal Asiatic Society and the Committee of the Oriental Translation Fund is highly desirable for the promotion of their common object, the diffusion of knowledge connected with Asia, whether by means of Translations, or by means of Original Communications.

2. That the following propositions be made to the Committee of the Oriental Translation Fund:—

That the Oriental Translation Committee be a Committee of the Royal Asiatic Society: that all the present Members of the Committee be confirmed: but that no new Members be elected who are not Members of the Royal Asiatic Society.

That the Oriental Translation Fund be in future called the Oriental Translation and Publication Fund, and be applicable, in certain proportions, to the purposes of original publications upon Oriental subjects, as well as to those of translations of Oriental works; and that all Ten Guinea Subscribers to that Oriental Fund shall be entitled, accordingly, to receive copies of all the Publications of the Royal

Asiatic Society, in addition to those of the Translations published under the direction of the Oriental Translation Committee.

It is presumed that the plan of including the original publications of the Society with the translations of Oriental works, if approved of by the present Subscribers, will add to the popularity of the Fund, and that the augmentation in the list of Subscribers would prevent any diminution of the pecuniary resources specially at the disposal of the Oriental Committee, while it would materially improve the general finances of the Society.

He thought it would not be difficult to show the advantages which must arise from the proposed junction. When first the Oriental Translation Fund had commenced its labours, it had printed many valuable works, which had been but little known. The first harvest of their exertions was now reaped, as the works which remained to be translated could scarcely be expected to possess so much interest as those which had been first selected. He suggested therefore, that original contributions should be mixed with the translations which were made, as the works sent out by the Oriental Translation Fund would thus become more popular, and more widely disseminated. The same persons who were anxious to see translations of Eastern works, would be glad also to peruse original contributions referring to India; so that the present patrons and supporters of the Oriental Translation Fund could not be expected to make any objection. He laid the proposition before the Meeting, under the impression that some new arrangement of this description was now become necessary, and would be found to improve the finances of the Society. To return to the first object of his rising, he begged to move a vote of thanks to the Treasurer, for his valuable services.

LOUIS HAYES PETIT, Esq., seconded the motion; which was carried unanimously.

J. ALEXANDER, Esq., returned thanks for the flattering compliment which had been just paid him. He only wished that his exertions were more beneficial to the Society. He begged leave to urge on the Meeting the necessity of exertion, in order to increase their funds, without which they could not hope to be independent, and really useful.

Colonel VANS AGNEW moved a vote of thanks to Captain HARKNESS, the Secretary of the Society, for his services. The high attainments and zeal of this gentleman, were too well known to require any encomium from him. He hoped that they might long have the advantage of his services, and that his example might stimulate other military men from India to employ their leisure agreeably, and usefully, in cultivating Oriental literature.

GEORGE ARBUTHNOT, Esq., seconded the motion; which was carried unanimously.

Captain HARKNESS returned thanks.

Sir HENRY WILLOCK said, that in rising to propose a vote of thanks to Sir GRAVES HAUGHTON, the Librarian, he had to announce to the Meeting that the weak state of that gentleman's health had obliged him to retire from the duties of his office. A distinguished officer, however, had consented to undertake the labours of the office, and he felt confident that the Meeting would congratulate themselves when he named Colonel Francklin.

Colonel STROVER seconded the motion; which was carried unanimously

The Meeting then proceeded to ballot for the Officers and Council for the ensuing year; ANDREW MACKLEW, Esq., and W. NEWNHAM, Esq., were appointed Scrutineers. Professor Horace Hayman Wilson, was elected Director of the Society; and Colonel W. Francklin, Librarian; the other Officers were re-elected. The following gentlemen were elected into the Council, in the place of the eight who had retired:—the Hon. Mount-stuart Elphinstone; the Right Hon. Henry Ellis; Sir Graves Haughton; Colonel John Briggs; John Francis Davis, Esq.; Charles Elliot, Esq. William Newnham, Esq.; and William Oliver, Esq.

PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE GENERAL MEETINGS
OF
THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

JUNE 3, 1837.

A GENERAL MEETING was held this day ; the Right Hon. Sir ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, *Vice-President*, in the Chair.

The Minutes of the Anniversary Meeting were read and confirmed.

The following donations were laid upon the table :—

From the Author

First Impressions and Studies from Nature in Hindustan. By Lieut. Bacon. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1837.

From the Author.

Rise and Progress of the British Power in India. By Peter Auber, Esq., M.R.A.S., &c. Vol. I. 8vo. London, 1837.

From Major Sir Henry Willock.

A series of sixty Bronze Medals of Russian Monarchs, illustrative of the History of Russia ; in a case.

Précis de l'Histoire de Russie, depuis Rurik jusqu'à la mort de l'Impératrice Catherine II. 12mo. St. Petersburg, 1814.

From the Author.

Voyages and Adventures in the Indian Archipelago, in 1832, 33, 34. By G. W. Earl, Esq., M.R.A.S. 8vo. London, 1837.

From the Author.

A Dissertation on the Soil and Agriculture of the British Settlement of Penang, &c. By Captain James Low, C.M.R.A.S. 8vo. Singapore, 1836.

From the Royal Irish Academy.

Its "Transactions." Vol. XVII.

Its "Proceedings." Nos. 1, 2, 3. 1836—7.

From the Statistical Society of London

Its "Transactions." Vol. I. Part I.

From the Author.

Resumé des principaux Traités Chinois sur la Culture, des Muriers, et l'Education des Vers à Soie." Par M. Julien, F.M.R.A.S., &c. 8vo. Paris, 1837.

From the Author.

Das Sprachgeschlecht der Titanen. Von J. Ritter von Xylander. 12mo. Frankf., 1837.

From M. Alexandre de Humboldt, F.M.R.A.S.

W. von Humbolt on the Kawi Language of Java. In German. Vol. I. 4to. Berlin, 1836.

From the Editor.

Mary, Queen of Scots; an Historical Play, by the late Dr. Francklin. Edited by his son, Lieutenant-Colonel W. Francklin, M.R.A.S. 12mo. London, 1837.

A case, containing miniature portraits of the kings of Dehli; also one containing drawings of Buddha Gaya.

From the Royal Geographical Society.

Its "Journal." Vol. VII. Part 1.

From the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

Tytler's Translation into Arabic of Hooper's Anatomists' Vade Mecum. 4to. Calcutta, 1836.

The *Susruta*; or Hindu System of Medicine. Sanscrit. Vol. II. 8vo. Calcutta, 1836.

The *Naishadha Charita*. Part 1. 8vo. Calcutta, 1836. Sanscrit. Asiatic Researches. Vol. XIX. Part 1. 4to. Calcutta, 1836.

From Sir Grenville Temple, Bart.

Esquisse de la Restauration de la Ville de Carthage. One sheet.

Prospectus of the "Société pour l'Exploration et les Fouilles du Sol de l'Ancienne Carthage, près de Tunis."

From the Author.

Institutiones Linguae Pracriticae. Concinnavit C. Lassen. Bonnæ, 1837. 12mo. Parts 1. and 2.

From the Author.

On the Origin of the Egyptian Language. By Dr. J. Loewe.—(From the *Asiatic Journal*.)

From the Geographical Society of Paris.

Bulletin de la Société, &c. Deuxième Série. Tome VI. 12mo.
Paris, 1836.

From J. C. Loudon, Esq.

His "Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum." Nos. 37, 38, 39, 40.

His "Suburban Gardener and Villa Companion." No. 1.

From John Romer, Esq., M.R.A.S.

Baillie's Arabic Tables. 4to. Calcutta, 1801.

From Baron Mac Guckin de Slane.

His Edition and Translation of "Le Diwan d'Amro'ikaïs. 4to.
Paris, 1837.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

The Secretary read the following letter from Major-General Sir Henry Worsley, K.C.B.

*"Shide Hill, Newport,
Isle of Wight, May 25, 1837.*

"DEAR SIR,

"Daily reminded by declining health, that

'Man wants but little here below,
Nor wants that little long,'—

it occurs to me that I cannot more suitably appropriate some of the bounty which I derive from the best and most interesting military service in the world, than by contributing a portion of it to promote the utility and stability of the Royal Asiatic Society; for which purpose I have the honour to place at the disposal of the Council the enclosed £1000*l.*, to be applied, either collectively to the general concerns of the Society at large, or a moiety, more or less, to be assigned for furthering the objects of the Committee of Agriculture and Commerce, as the Council, in its discretion, may please to determine.

"I am, &c. &c.,

(Signed)

"H. WORSLEY."

"To Captain Harkness,
Secretary of the R. A. S., &c.

Resolved,

That the special thanks of the Society be conveyed to Sir Henry Worsley, for his munificent donation.

Moved by Sir GEORGE STAUNTON, seconded by Sir CHARLES FORBES,
and

Resolved unanimously,

That a subscription by the Members of the Society be opened for the purpose of defraying the expense of a bust of Sir Henry Worsley, to be

placed in the Meeting-Room, in honour of so distinguished a benefactor of the Society.

Resolved,

That the subscription of each Member be limited to the sum of One Guinea.

The venerable Archdeacon Robinson, and William Lavie, Esq., were elected Resident Members of the Society.

Captain James Mackenzie, of the Bengal Native Cavalry, read to the Society a portion of his notes taken during a passage from Calcutta to Alexandria, in 1835, and 1836.

Thanks were returned to Captain Mackenzie for his communication.

JUNE 17, 1837.

A GENERAL Meeting was held this day: Professor HORACE HAYMAN WILSON, the Director of the Society, in the Chair.

The following donations were laid upon the table;—

From the Author.

Modern India; with Illustrations of the Resources and Capabilities of Hindustan. By H. H. Spry, M.D., M.R.A.S., &c. 2 vols. 12mo. London, 1837.

From the Right Hon. Sir R. J. Wilmot Horton, Bart.

The Ceylon Almanac, and Compendium of Useful Information, for the year 1837. Colombo. 8vo.

From the Editor.

Revue du Nord; April, 1837.

From the Rev. Dr. Wilson.

The Oriental Christian Spectator. Vol. VII. Nos. 5 to 15 inclusive. Bombay, 1836.

From Messrs. Fisher and Sons

Syria, the Holy Land, &c., illustrated. Part 13.

From Colonel Miles, M.R.A.S.

A Map of Bháratákhand. MS.

A drawing of the Seven Khands, and the Sapt Samudras; or the seven divisions of the world, and the seven seas.

A drawing descriptive of the Seven Heavens of the Jaiinas.

The above were presented to Colonel Miles, by a Jain priest, of the province of Marwar.

From Professor C. Ritter, F.M.R.A.S.

His pamphlet on the Topes of India.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

Henry Wilkinson, Esq., was elected a Resident Member of the Society.

David Blanc, Esq., of the Bombay Civil Service, was elected a non-Resident Member.

Colonel Sykes read a paper on the Three-faced Busts of Siva, in the Cave Temples of Elephanta and Ellora: and the thanks of the Meeting were returned to him for the same.

JULY 1, 1837.

A GENERAL Meeting was held this day: the Right Hon. the President of the Society in the Chair.

The following donations were laid upon the table:

From the Right Hon. Lord Teignmouth.

Notes on Indian Affairs; by the Hon. Frederick John Shore. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1837.

From the Société de Géographie de Paris.

Recueil de Voyages et de Mémoires, &c. Tome Cinquième. 4to. Paris, 1836. (Géographie d'Edrisi).

From the Zoological Society.

Its "Proceedings." 3 Nos.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

Colonel Samuel Goodfellow; Edward R. Power, Esq.; John Ramsay, Esq., M.D.; and Kirkman Finlay, Esq., were elected Resident Members.

George Ashburner, Esq., and Lieutenant William Joseph Eastwick, were elected non-Resident Members.

M. D'Avezac, of Paris; and Sir Thomas Read, K.C.B., were elected Corresponding Members of the Society.

Professor Wilson, the Director of the Society, read a Paper by John Romer, Esq., to which the Professor had appended some remarks, on the subject of the authenticity of the Zend and Pehlevi languages, as they appear in the religious writings of the Parsis.

Selections from a translation by Dr. Wilson, President of the Bombay Branch, R.A.S., of the general *Sirozé* of the Parsis, was also read to the Meeting by Professor Wilson.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be communicated to Dr. Wilson, and Mr Romer, for their communications.

JULY 15, 1837.

A GENERAL Meeting was held this day: PROFESSOR WILSON in the Chair.

The following donations were laid upon the table:—

From the Author.

Narrative of a Voyage of Observation among the Colonies of Western Africa, &c. By Captain James E. Alexander, M.R.A. S., &c. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1837.

From the American Philosophical Society.

Its "Transactions;" Vol. V. Part 3.

From the Author.

Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum. By J. C. Loudon. Nos. 41, 42.

From J. R. Morrison, Esq.

The Chinese Repository. Vol. V. Nos. 7, 8, 9.

From the Chevalier Bianchi, F.M.R.A.S.

Dictionnaire Turc-Français. Tome second. Par J. D. Kieffer et T. X. Bianchi. Paris, 1837. 8vo.

From Professor Rosellini, C.M.R.A.S.

I Monumenti dell'Egitto e della Nubia. Tomo III. Parte Seconda. 8vo. Pisa, 1836; also Plates to the work, Disp. 29, 30, 31, 32. Imp. fol.

From John Murray, Esq.

The Life of Robert, Lord Clive. By Major-General Sir John Malcolm, G.C.B. 3 vols. 8vo. London, 1836.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

The Secretary read the following letter, addressed to the Right Hon. the President, by the Right Hon. Sir John Cam Hobhouse, Bart. M.P., Vice-Patron of the Society:—

"India Board, 11th of July, 1837.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to inform you that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to signify to me her consent to become Patron of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland.

"I remain, Sir, &c.,

(Signed,)

"JOHN HOBHOUSE."

"To the Right Honourable

"C. W. Williams Wynn, M.P."

An extract from a letter addressed to Sir Charles Forbes, Bart., by the thirteen *Parsee* gentlemen of Bombay who were elected Non-Resident Members of the Society in July, 1836, was read, expressing their high sense of the honour conferred on them, by their election into the Society, and their desire to further its objects in every way in their power.

Philip Melvill, Esq., and John Henry Brady, Esq., were elected Resident Members of the Society.

A portion of a Biographical Memoir of the late H. T. Colebrooke, Esq., written by his son, Edward Colebrooke, Esq., was read to the Meeting, by Professor Wilson.

The thanks of the Society were ordered to be returned to Mr. Colebrooke for his communication.

The Chairman announced that the Meetings of the Society were adjourned till December.
